

# Kelly Tshibaka ~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional

Search...

Go



15  
Tuesday  
JAN 2013

## Sermon Feedback from My Daughter

POSTED BY KTSHIBAKA IN MINISTRY, RAISING KIDS, STORIES FROM A PIONEER CHURCH    5 COMMENTS

"Mom, don't you think it's weird that when you preach everyone just stares at you blankly?"

Her advice on how I can improve:

1. Don't start with "Fun Lady", being all funny and happy
2. Start your sermon
3. When everyone's bored, give them a break so they can make fun of you—but don't worry about it.
4. Then have them sit down again. Continue the sermon. When they get bored again, don't give them a break this time. Instead, dump all the "fun" on them at that point. If you pour out all the fun in the beginning, then they're bored the rest of the sermon. So save it for the end.

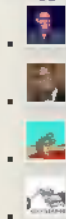
Thanks, Button...

### SHARE THIS:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

### LIKE THIS:

[Like](#)  
4 bloggers like this.



← Previous post

Next post →

5

### THOUGHTS ON "SERMON FEEDBACK FROM MY DAUGHTER"



**joseph said:**

January 17, 2013 at 11:42 am

Reblogged this on [A Growing Family](#) and commented:  
This is great advice from my friends young daughter for anyone that speaks in public..

[REPLY](#)



**joseph said:**

January 16, 2013 at 8:08 am

How old is your daughter? Sounds like she is ready for the speaker training circuit. Love it.

[REPLY](#)

**April Love said:**

January 16, 2013 at 5:08 am

so cute 😊

[REPLY](#)

**Teresa Koop said:**

January 15, 2013 at 5:23 pm

Above comment from me--

[REPLY](#)



**Anonymous said:**

January 15, 2013 at 5:22 pm

I just love this. My kids know so much more than they tell me.

[REPLY](#)

### LEAVE A REPLY

Email {Address never made public}

Name

Website

☐ Notify me of follow-up comments via email.

☐ Notify me of new posts via email.

Post Comment

Search...

Go

#### FOLLOW BLOG

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 833 other followers

Follow

#### RECENT POSTS

- [Mice Trying To Break In!](#)
- [Sermon Feedback from My Daughter](#)
- [Lessons from Game Shows: The Last Shall Be First...](#)
- [Lessons from Parenting: God's Provision and Feeding Babies](#)
- [Reflections on Mary, Christmas, and Church Size](#)

#### ARCHIVES

- [January 2013](#)
- [December 2012](#)
- [November 2012](#)
- [October 2012](#)
- [September 2012](#)
- [August 2012](#)
- [July 2012](#)
- [June 2012](#)
- [May 2012](#)
- [April 2012](#)
- [March 2012](#)
- [January 2012](#)
- [December 2011](#)
- [November 2011](#)
- [October 2011](#)
- [September 2011](#)
- [August 2011](#)
- [July 2011](#)
- [April 2011](#)
- [March 2011](#)
- [February 2011](#)
- [January 2011](#)
- [December 2010](#)
- [November 2010](#)
- [October 2010](#)
- [September 2010](#)
- [August 2010](#)
- [July 2010](#)
- [June 2010](#)
- [May 2010](#)
- [April 2010](#)
- [March 2010](#)
- [February 2010](#)
- [January 2010](#)
- [December 2009](#)
- [November 2009](#)
- [October 2009](#)
- [September 2009](#)
- [August 2009](#)
- [July 2009](#)
- [June 2009](#)
- [May 2009](#)
- [March 2009](#)
- [February 2009](#)
- [January 2009](#)
- [December 2008](#)
- [November 2008](#)
- [October 2008](#)
- [September 2008](#)
- [August 2008](#)
- [July 2008](#)
- [June 2008](#)
- [May 2008](#)
- [April 2008](#)
- [March 2008](#)
- [February 2008](#)
- [January 2008](#)
- [December 2007](#)
- [November 2007](#)
- [October 2007](#)
- [September 2007](#)
- [August 2007](#)
- [July 2007](#)
- [June 2007](#)
- [May 2007](#)
- [April 2007](#)
- [March 2007](#)
- [February 2007](#)
- [January 2007](#)

#### CATEGORIES

Select Category

# Kelly Tshibaka ~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional

Search...

Go



15  
Tuesday  
JAN 2013

## Sermon Feedback from My Daughter

POSTED BY KTSHIBAKA IN MINISTRY, RAISING KIDS, STORIES FROM A PIONEER CHURCH

5 COMMENTS

"Mom, don't you think it's weird that when you preach everyone just stares at you blankly?"

Her advice on how I can improve:

1. Don't start with "Fun Lady", being all funny and happy
2. Start your sermon
3. When everyone's bored, give them a break so they can make fun of you—but don't worry about it.
4. Then have them sit down again. Continue the sermon. When they get bored again, don't give them a break this time. Instead, dump all the "fun" on them at that point. If you pour out all the fun in the beginning, then they're bored the rest of the sermon. So save it for the end.

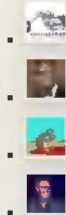
Thanks, Button...

### SHARE THIS:

- Facebook
- Twitter
- LinkedIn
- Google Plus
- More

### LIKE THIS:

[Like](#)  
4 bloggers like this.



← Previous post

Next post →

5

### THOUGHTS ON "SERMON FEEDBACK FROM MY DAUGHTER"



**joseph said:**

January 17, 2013 at 11:42 am

Reblogged this on [A Growing Family](#) and commented:

This is great advice from my friends young daughter for anyone that speaks in public..

REPLY



**joseph said:**

January 16, 2013 at 8:08 am

How old is your daughter? Sounds like she is ready for the speaker training circuit. Love it.

REPLY

**April Love said:**

January 16, 2013 at 5:08 am

so cute 😊

REPLY

**Teresa Koop said:**

January 15, 2013 at 5:23 pm

Above comment from me--

REPLY



**Anonymous said:**

January 15, 2013 at 5:22 pm

I just love this. My kids know so much more than they tell me.

REPLY

### LEAVE A REPLY

Email {Address never made public}

Name

Website

☐ Notify me of follow-up comments via email.

☐ Notify me of new posts via email.

Post Comment

Search...

Go

#### FOLLOW BLOG

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 833 other followers

Follow

#### RECENT POSTS

- Mice Trying To Break In!
- Sermon Feedback from My Daughter
- Lessons from Game Shows: The Last Shall Be First...
- Lessons from Parenting: God's Provision and Feeding Babies
- Reflections on Mary, Christmas, and Church Size

#### ARCHIVES

- January 2013
- December 2012
- November 2012
- October 2012
- September 2012
- August 2012
- July 2012
- June 2012
- May 2012
- April 2012
- March 2012
- January 2012
- December 2011
- November 2011
- October 2011
- September 2011
- August 2011
- July 2011
- April 2011
- March 2011
- February 2011
- January 2011
- December 2010
- November 2010
- October 2010
- September 2010
- August 2010
- July 2010
- June 2010
- May 2010
- April 2010
- March 2010
- February 2010
- January 2010
- December 2009
- November 2009
- October 2009
- September 2009
- August 2009
- July 2009
- June 2009
- May 2009
- March 2009
- February 2009
- January 2009
- December 2008
- November 2008
- October 2008
- September 2008
- August 2008
- July 2008
- June 2008
- May 2008
- April 2008
- March 2008
- February 2008
- January 2008
- December 2007
- November 2007
- October 2007
- September 2007
- August 2007
- July 2007
- June 2007
- May 2007
- April 2007
- March 2007
- February 2007
- January 2007

#### CATEGORIES

Select Category



## Kelly Tshibaka ~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional

Search:



17  
Thursday  
Jan 2013

### Mice Trying To Break In!

Posted by KTSHBAKA IN Uncategorized

» Leave A Comment

*Thoughts from a dear friend who is a mom of two, including a rainbow:*

We had a few mice try to move in a few months ago. It was a very unsettling few days (cringe). But it "made" us focus on the issue at hand and then the overall cleanliness of our kitchen.

I've been under attack more intensely lately, and "unsettling" doesn't begin to describe it. But every once and a while, the flare ups reveal the state of your heart and the dust on a neglected spiritual walk.

Thank you, Lord... You will never leave me or forsake me. Help me to capture intruders and clean house. Shine your light into the darkness and help me identify the intruders' whereabouts. Fill this house with your presence.

SHARE THIS:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

LIKE THIS:

[Like](#)  
Be the first to like this.

Tags  
Pearling

15  
Tuesday  
Jan 2013

### Sermon Feedback from My Daughter

Posted by KTSHBAKA IN MISCELLANY, RAINING KIDS, STORIES FROM A PIONEER CHURCH

» 5 Comments

"Mom, don't you think it's weird that when you preach everyone just stares at you blankly?"

Her advice on how I can improve:

1. Don't start with "Fun Lady", being all funny and happy
2. Start your sermon
3. When everyone's bored, give them a break so they can make fun of you-but don't worry about it.
4. Then have them sit down again. Continue the sermon. When they get bored again, don't give them a break this time. Instead, dump all the "fun" on them at that point. If you pour out all the fun in the beginning, then they're bored the rest of the sermon. So save it for the end.

Thanks, Button...

SHARE THIS:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

LIKE THIS:

[Like](#)  
4 bloggers like this.

13  
Sunday  
Jan 2013

### Lessons from Game Shows: The Last Shall Be First..

Posted by KTSHBAKA IN Uncategorized

» Leave A Comment

*Thoughts from a dear friend who is a working mom of two kids:*

Gameshow...Been watching the Price Is Right and Let's Make a Deal (Quality pleasures of daytime TV). Sometimes we can get upset that the other guy got to play on the show first. Whether they got called first by the host, or you guessed the wrong price, or even if the other guy beat you to it (paid one dollar above yours)... we can frown or curse the other guy's success... we can blame the directors of the game or the host.

But sometimes being the third guy called, instead of the first, means you could be offered to play for the car... And if they get the car, and you only get the Washer/Dryer set....that's more than you had walking in. What if you never get called to "Come on Down"?...the game just wouldn't be the same for the players or the viewers...without a cheering audience.

SHARE THIS:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

LIKE THIS:

[Like](#)  
Be the first to like this.

11  
Friday  
Jan 2013

### Lessons from Parenting: God's Provision and Feeding Babies

Posted by KTSHBAKA IN Uncategorized

» Leave A Comment

*Here are some thoughts from a dear friend who is a working mom of a 2-year-old and newborn:*

We whine, we cry...we cry out..."HOW LONG, OH LORD!?"...and he's got the bottle right there...right next to our mouths...if we'd just calm down long enough to notice that He is already providing...we'd get the food in our mouths sooner. I'm learning so much about how God sees us...and how frustrating it must be for Him when we won't just calm down, just be still and know that He is God. He IS providing. He IS good.... and smile back at him. Those are the best moments as a parent, and those are the best moments as a child. I need to give God more of those moments.

SHARE THIS:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

LIKE THIS:

[Like](#)  
Be the first to like this.

08  
Tuesday  
Jan 2013

### Reflections on Mary, Christmas, and Church Size

Posted by KTSHBAKA IN Uncategorized

» Leave A Comment

Deb sent some reflections to me in response to some of my blog posts. I thought what she shared was really profound, so I'm passing it along. Love that girl. So glad God saw fit to have us be roommates freshman year! With love, from Deb:

*You know, I was also challenged by your application that those "blessed and highly favored" by the Lord go through a hard time. Like Mary and Joseph in the Christmas story. I had never thought about it from that angle, but it was really interesting. God convicted me that, had I been in Mary's shoes, nine months pregnant, and the Obama administration decreed that we return to my hometown in another state to be counted for a census, how frustrated I would be. Then upon arriving and finding myself giving birth in a stable, I would have certainly invoked my "blessed and highly favored" entitlement clause (to you people not KNOW that the angel Gabriel himself appeared to me???). What misery I could spread around to anyone close enough to listen. And yet Mary seemed content.*

*One other theme struck me from this particular blog post... I love the recurring theme through the Bible that God is not a respecter of persons (Acts 10:34). In the Christmas story, He chose poor shepherd boys (that no one could feel beneath them), and Wise Men (that no one could feel above them) to reveal Jesus' birth. I love how He seems to move the same way in yours and Niki's life... creating two incredibly gifted Harvard educated lawyers to be pastors (to relate to the rich and powerful), yet bringing you guys through these crazy trials like not having a place to live (in order to be accessible to the weak and lowly)...*

*And I also loved your post on the mega-church thing... I clearly remember asking you that question about how big your church was... To share an outsider's perspective... the question in my mind that I was trying to answer was, "If I attended MCFE, would I have a personal relationship with Niki and Kelly as the Pastors?" Because if there were 500 people, then probably not. And I loved your answer, about your mission statement... It's not EVERY church's goal to mentor, equip and send out spiritual giants!! Just another take on the "success" metric...*

SHARE THIS:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

LIKE THIS:

[Like](#)  
Be the first to like this.

02  
Wednesday  
Jan 2013

### Jenifer

Posted by KTSHBAKA IN Uncategorized

» Leave A Comment

Lately I find myself chewing on some things Jen has told me. She has this way of dropping conviction bombs — the kind that make you fundamentally change who you are as a person — with such grace that it takes, oh I don't know, like a year?, before you realize that you've changed as a person because of one thing she said a long long time ago.

It was Jen who told me that she doesn't get a gift for someone unless she wants to and it's nice. Otherwise, there's no point in getting it. She's going to spend the money, she's going to select it thoughtfully, and she's going to wrap it beautifully, or she's not giving one. Many people don't get gifts, but the ones who do — mmnn. A Jenifer gift is always a nice gift. I know because I got one from her after Justice was born. It made me totally rethink how I give gifts. I felt so loved and so special. I want to give like Jen gives.

It also was Jen who told me that she used to be concerned with what people thought of her — when she entered a room, said something, or flubbed up. I can relate. I spend a lot of emotional energy worrying about that — worrying that I've given people a reason to reject me. Wondering what they think of me. But Jen said that after something the Lord showed her, she started to be concerned about what others thought she thought of them. In other words, instead of wondering whether people were rejecting her, she concerned herself with whether people felt accepted by her. It really freed her up to love bigger. I want to think about others the way she does. I want to love like Jen.

SHARE THIS:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

LIKE THIS:

[Like](#)  
Be the first to like this.

01  
Friday  
Jan 2013

### 2012 Blog Highlights—Caught Me By Surprise

Posted by KTSHBAKA IN Uncategorized

» 2 Comments

So WordPress prepared an annual report for my blog, showing, among other things, what blog posts you faithful blog readers liked the most. I was SHOCKED. The most read blog post BY FAR was the one about seeing my ex-boyfriend. ??? And here I thought people read this blog for spiritual growth...

The other top ones were the Top 10 Memories of our house, my thoughts on the Connecticut shootings, and our talk with Button about sex.

No, really, I can't figure this out. I'd love to get your feedback — why was that blog post so interesting? And why these blog posts and not others? Any comments you can give would be appreciated — it'd help me know better what topics you're interested in reading about.



SHARE THIS:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

LIKE THIS:

[Like](#)  
Be the first to like this.

31  
Monday  
Dec 2012

### Reflections on 2012

Posted by KTSHBAKA IN KID STORIES

» Leave A Comment

2012 was a year of liberation. Like when God brought the Israelites out of Egypt. New beginnings, fulfilled promises, as well as the costs and challenges that come with it.

2012 was the year I went back to work for the organization that accused, attacked, persecuted me. I had other options, but that one was the best. And the fact is, it wasn't the organization. It was certain people. But God said He would vindicate and protect me. This year I got to learn how to trust Him at His Word. Though there were times I bottled a lot of fear, I made it. And though these people continued to come after me from different sides, He was faithful. And the office I work for now has been really great. He brought me out of a bad place and put me in a place of promise. This year, I saw the goodness of the Lord. This year He gave me justice.

2012 was the year of the hardest pregnancy I've ever had. It was unlike every other pregnancy. Just when I thought it couldn't get any worse, it did. From extreme nausea, to having to wear my foot in a boot because of an odd nerve reaction, to ridiculously painful and debilitating joint problems, to months of early onset contractions, to bed rest, it was just unbelievable. I was able to keep a positive attitude, and not develop grumpiness towards my baby despite my health challenges. Huge victory there. And then right before birth, I prayed for the impossible — a labor and delivery that did not result in any complications and was pain free. And that's what He gave me! I love that our God is the god of the possible — with Him, all things are possible. Including delivering a 9 lb. baby pain free! He freed me from the painful plagues, restored my health completely, and gave me a beautiful baby.

2012 was the last year we lived in our first house. He brought us out of our house, with a profit and no loss. Even though the buyers have been nothing short of unjust, unkind, and greedy, God has provided, helped us, and freed us. Freedom liberation comes with a cost. Like the Israelites, we thought we were free of the house, and then these people just keep chasing us down. It has taken a lot of emotional energy out of us. And it's been hard to not take up offenses, be mistreated with anger, or act vengefully. I'm learning to trust that the God who set this whole thing in motion will work all of this ick out if we keep our conscience clear and do all we can to glorify Him in our every step.

2012 was the year of displacement. Due to a series of unfortunate circumstances, we found ourselves without a place of our own, if you will, living in temporary housing. It's an opportunity to learn that our home isn't actually here on earth anyway. No matter where we lay our head, we're not really "home."

2012 we were blessed exceedingly by the generosity and kindness of our respective families this year. They helped us and gifted us enormously, including making it possible for us to go on vacations with them. We also saw friends we haven't seen in a long time, filling places in our heart we didn't know were empty. We deepened relationships with other friends who are so dear to us. And we said goodbye to some friends, too. Those that have moved away, or moved away emotionally. Deep sadness. It's always hard for me to say goodbye. I think part of me holds them in my heart forever.

2012 our church grew in spiritual maturity. We saw baptisms, liberations, prophesies, and a fresh outpouring of the Spirit. We saw sacrificial serving, loving community, genuine reconciliation, and miracles. The people of our church have loved big and made a huge difference in the lives of others. Totally delighted.

And, above all things, 2012 was the year of Justice. An answer to a long awaited prayer. A miracle, a gift from God, a treasure whose bring me so much joy. And we named him Justice as a testimony for what God has done for us — to praise Him for the Justice He has given us.

SHARE THIS:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

LIKE THIS:

[Like](#)  
One blogger likes this.

30  
Sunday  
Dec 2012

### Justice's First Word?

Posted by KTSHBAKA IN KID STORIES

» Leave A Comment

I think Justice said his first word! I had him nuzzled up against my shoulder when he sneezed. A great big goopy bunch of snot came out, and, because he still can't lift or control his head well, his face landed right in it. He laid there for a second before remarking, in the cutest little voice, "Eek" Niki and I laughed so hard!

SHARE THIS:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

LIKE THIS:

[Like](#)  
4 bloggers like this.

28  
Friday  
Dec 2012

### I Saw My Ex-Boyfriend

Posted by KTSHBAKA IN PERSONAL

» 2 Comments

Right there in the middle of Disney World, a family was walking towards me with A&M shirts on. I thought about stopping to say Howdy (that's what we Aggies do), but just as I was about to, I did a double take. Is that my ex-boyfriend? MY FIRST boyfriend? [GASP] That IS my ex-boyfriend!

That's him in his crew cut, jacked biceps, and proud chin. And that's the girl he dated after me — the one who gave him what he wanted (and what I wouldn't), the one he married. And there are his two children—super cute kids.

I wanted to say howdy, but then where does that conversation go? H... I'm the girl you dated for two weeks freshman year, like 15 years ago. Remember? Oh, you don't? Probably because it was just two weeks for you. But you know what it was for me? My first major rejection from a guy. My first heartbreak. My first time of wondering whether I should sacrifice my purity and my values for the affection of a man. Thankfully, you didn't give me that choice...you coldly dumped me at a party before I could make that choice. But I always wondered if you would have loved me if I did give you what you wanted? Because I know your cute little wife there did...and you put a ring on her finger...after the fact.

How many times I've wondered what it would be like to see him again. And now here's my chance! What would I say? What did I want him to know? That I was doing great, was (still) prettier than his wife, was successful, had cuter children than him? While all of that might be true, I know he'd never agree with me about my children being cuter... And what was the purpose of stating the obvious? Make him feel bad? I didn't want that.

Did I want him to regret breaking up with me? Regret letting me go simply because I wouldn't "go any further"? No, I didn't want that. Regretting ending our relationship would simply mean problems in his marriage.

Did I want to re-connect, share a laugh, thank him for his military service, be "friends" on Facebook? No, I didn't want that. I'm totally not interested in staying in touch with a guy I knew for a second 15ish years ago.

In fact, as I sat there watching him lift his little girl up to give her a piggy back ride, I realized that he wasn't as bad of a guy as I'd let myself believe. While he wanted something I wouldn't give, that's pretty typical for 18 year old guys. So he went and got it somewhere else—predictable. But then he also married that girl—he started dating freshman year of college (not typical). They're still married (also not typical), and he has served our country for over a decade. All told, with the hindsight of 15 years, he seems like a pretty good guy who actually is prone to commitment and selflessness, rather than giga-ging self-centeredness like I thought.

So what do I really want for him? I want him and his family to be blessed. I want their marriage to be strong. For him to be safe when he's deployed. I want his kids to have a great relationship with him. I want things to go well for them. And none of these things would be furthered by me stopping to talk to them here in the middle of their family vacation.

As I passed by in anonymity, I thought of Niki and smiled. How grateful I am that I was spared a relationship that would have cost me so much and instead given a husband who gives me so much.

SHARE THIS:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

LIKE THIS:

[Like](#)  
One blogger likes this.

— Older posts



13  
Sunday  
Jan 2013

Lessons from Game Shows: The Last Shall Be First...

Posted by KTSHIBAKA in Uncategorized 0 Leave a Comment

Thoughts from a dear friend who is a working mom of two kids:

Gameshows...Been watching the Price Is Right and Let's Make a Deal (Guilty pleasures of daytime TV). Sometimes we can get upset that the other guy got to play on the show first. Whether they got called first by the host, or you guessed the wrong price, or even if the other guy beat you to it (bid one dollar above yours)... we can frown or curse the other guy's success... we can blame the directors of the game or the host.

But sometimes being the third guy called, instead of the first, means you could be offered to play for the car... And if they get the car, and you only get the Washer/Dryer set....that's more than you had walking in. What if you never get called to "Come on Down?"...the game just wouldn't be the same for the players or the viewers...without a cheering audience.

SHARE THIS:

- Facebook
- Twitter
- LinkedIn
- Google+
- More

LIKE THIS:  
Like  
Be the first to like this.

Previous post

Next post

LEAVE A REPLY

Email

{Address never made public}

Name

Website

☐ Notify me of follow-up comments via email.

☐ Notify me of new posts via email.

Post Comment

Search... Go

FOLLOW BLOG

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 834 other followers

Follow

RECENT POSTS

- Mice Trying To Break In!
- Sermon Feedback from My Daughter
- Lessons from Game Shows: The Last Shall Be First...
- Lessons from Parenting: God's Provision and Feeding Babies
- Reflections on Mary, Christmas, and Church Size

ARCHIVES

- January 2013
- December 2012
- November 2012
- October 2012
- September 2012
- August 2012
- July 2012
- June 2012
- May 2012
- April 2012
- March 2012
- January 2012
- December 2011
- November 2011
- October 2011
- September 2011
- August 2011
- July 2011
- April 2011
- March 2011
- February 2011
- January 2011
- December 2010
- November 2010
- October 2010
- September 2010
- August 2010
- July 2010
- June 2010
- May 2010
- April 2010
- March 2010
- February 2010
- January 2010
- December 2009
- November 2009
- October 2009
- September 2009
- August 2009
- July 2009
- June 2009
- May 2009
- March 2009
- February 2009
- January 2009
- December 2008
- November 2008
- October 2008
- September 2008
- August 2008
- July 2008
- June 2008
- May 2008
- April 2008
- March 2008
- February 2008
- January 2008
- December 2007
- November 2007
- October 2007
- September 2007
- August 2007
- July 2007
- June 2007
- May 2007
- April 2007
- March 2007
- February 2007
- January 2007

CATEGORIES

Select Category



# Kelly Tshibaka ~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional

Go



17  
Thursday  
JAN 2013

## Mice Trying To Break In!

POSTED BY KTSHIBAKA IN UNCATEGORIZED

LEAVE A COMMENT

Thoughts from a dear friend who is a mom of two, including a newborn:

We had a few mice try to move in a few months ago. It was a very unsettling few days (cringe). But it \*made\* us focus on the issue at hand and then the overall cleanliness of our kitchen.

I've been under attack more intensely lately, and "unsettling" doesn't begin to describe it. But every once and a while, the flare ups reveal the state of your heart and the dust on a neglected spiritual walk.

Thank you, Lord...You will never leave me or forsake me. Help me to capture intruders and clean house. Shine your light into the darkness and help me identify the intruders' whereabouts. Fill this house with your presence.

### SHARE THIS:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

### LIKE THIS:

[Like](#)  
Be the first to like this.

Previous post

### LEAVE A REPLY

Email {Address never made public}

Name

Website

☐ Notify me of follow-up comments via email.

☐ Notify me of new posts via email.

Post Comment

Go

### FOLLOW BLOG

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 834 other followers

Follow

### RECENT POSTS

- Mice Trying To Break In!
- Sermon Feedback from My Daughter
- Lessons from Game Shows: The Last Shall Be First...
- Lessons from Parenting: God's Provision and Feeding Babies
- Reflections on Mary, Christmas, and Church Size

### ARCHIVES

- January 2013
- December 2012
- November 2012
- October 2012
- September 2012
- August 2012
- July 2012
- June 2012
- May 2012
- April 2012
- March 2012
- January 2012
- December 2011
- November 2011
- October 2011
- September 2011
- August 2011
- July 2011
- April 2011
- March 2011
- February 2011
- January 2011
- December 2010
- November 2010
- October 2010
- September 2010
- August 2010
- July 2010
- June 2010
- May 2010
- April 2010
- March 2010
- February 2010
- January 2010
- December 2009
- November 2009
- October 2009
- September 2009
- August 2009
- July 2009
- June 2009
- May 2009
- March 2009
- February 2009
- January 2009
- December 2008
- November 2008
- October 2008
- September 2008
- August 2008
- July 2008
- June 2008
- May 2008
- April 2008
- March 2008
- February 2008
- January 2008
- December 2007
- November 2007
- October 2007
- September 2007
- August 2007
- July 2007
- June 2007
- May 2007
- April 2007
- March 2007
- February 2007
- January 2007

### CATEGORIES

Select Category

# This file was generated on Wed, 29 Aug 2012 05:53:05 +0000  
# If you are regularly crawling WordPress.com sites, please use our firehose to receive real-time push updates instead.  
# Please see <http://en.wordpress.com/firehose/> for more details.

Sitemap: <http://kellytshibaka.com/sitemap.xml>

User-agent: IRLbot  
Crawl-delay: 3600

User-agent: \*  
Disallow: /next/

User-agent: \*  
Disallow: /mshots/v1/

# har har  
User-agent: \*  
Disallow: /activate/

User-agent: \*  
Disallow: /wp-login.php

User-agent: \*  
Disallow: /signup/

User-agent: \*  
Disallow: /related-tags.php

User-agent: \*  
Disallow: /public-api/

# MT refugees  
User-agent: \*  
Disallow: /cgi-bin/

User-agent: \*  
Disallow: /wp-admin/  
Disallow: /wp-includes/





- [About](#)
- [Resources](#)
- [Speaking](#)

## Kelly Tshibaka

~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional

Search:



### You Can't Make This Up

25 Wednesday Sep 2013

Posted by [kushibaka](#) in [Uncategorized](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

On the radio this morning, and they weren't joking:

"If the government shuts down next week, all of DC will shut down, too. Trash, transportation, you name it. That's because the city of DC is funded by Congress. This news update is brought to you by Big Apple Circus."

You got that right...

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 


Like this:

Like Loading...

### Post navigation

[← Previous post](#) [Next post →](#)

### Leave a Reply

 Email

(Address never made public)

Name

Website

☐ Notify me of follow-up comments via email.

☐ Notify me of new posts via email.

Search:

### Follow Blog

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 901 other followers

### Recent Posts

- [Another Open Letter to President Obama](#)
- [You Can't Make This Up](#)
- [Butt on's Take on Birth Control](#)
- [Time Together](#)
- [Best Advice I've Received on How to Live Well](#)

### Archives

- [October 2013](#)
- [September 2013](#)
- [August 2013](#)
- [June 2013](#)
- [May 2013](#)
- [April 2013](#)
- [March 2013](#)
- [February 2013](#)
- [January 2013](#)
- [December 2012](#)
- [November 2012](#)
- [October 2012](#)
- [September 2012](#)
- [August 2012](#)
- [July 2012](#)
- [June 2012](#)
- [May 2012](#)
- [April 2012](#)
- [March 2012](#)
- [January 2012](#)
- [December 2011](#)
- [November 2011](#)
- [October 2011](#)
- [September 2011](#)
- [August 2011](#)
- [July 2011](#)
- [April 2011](#)
- [March 2011](#)
- [February 2011](#)
- [January 2011](#)
- [December 2010](#)
- [November 2010](#)
- [October 2010](#)
- [September 2010](#)
- [August 2010](#)
- [July 2010](#)
- [June 2010](#)
- [May 2010](#)
- [April 2010](#)
- [March 2010](#)
- [February 2010](#)
- [January 2010](#)
- [December 2009](#)
- [November 2009](#)
- [October 2009](#)
- [September 2009](#)
- [August 2009](#)
- [July 2009](#)
- [June 2009](#)
- [May 2009](#)
- [March 2009](#)
- [February 2009](#)
- [January 2009](#)
- [December 2008](#)
- [November 2008](#)
- [October 2008](#)
- [September 2008](#)
- [August 2008](#)
- [July 2008](#)
- [June 2008](#)
- [May 2008](#)
- [April 2008](#)
- [March 2008](#)
- [February 2008](#)
- [January 2008](#)
- [December 2007](#)
- [November 2007](#)
- [October 2007](#)
- [September 2007](#)
- [August 2007](#)
- [July 2007](#)
- [June 2007](#)
- [May 2007](#)
- [April 2007](#)
- [March 2007](#)
- [February 2007](#)
- [January 2007](#)

### Categories

▾

[Blog at WordPress.com.](#) [The Chateau Theme.](#)

[Follow](#)

Follow “Kelly Tshibaka”

Get every new post delivered to your Inbox.

Join 901 other followers

Powered by [WordPress.com](#)

%d bloggers like this:





This XML file does not appear to have any style information associated with it. The document tree is shown below.

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8" ?>
<rss xmlns:content="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/content/" xmlns:dc="http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/" xmlns:atom="http://www.w3.org/2005/Atom"
xmlns:sy="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/syndication/" xmlns:georss="http://www.georss.org/georss" xmlns:geo="http://www.w3.org/2003/01/geo/wgs84_pos#"
xmlns:media="http://search.yahoo.com/mrss/" version="2.0">
  <channel>
    <title>Comments on: You Can't Make This Up</title>
    <atom:link href="http://kellytshibaka.com/2013/09/25/you-cant-make-this-up/feed/" rel="self" type="application/rss+xml"/>
    <link>http://kellytshibaka.com/2013/09/25/you-cant-make-this-up/</link>
    <description>Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional</description>
    <lastBuildDate>Mon, 16 Sep 2013 20:11:00 +0000</lastBuildDate>
    <sy:updatePeriod>hourly</sy:updatePeriod>
    <sy:updateFrequency>1</sy:updateFrequency>
    <generator>http://wordpress.com/</generator>
  </channel>
</rss>
```





- [About](#)
- [Resources](#)
- [Speaking](#)

## Kelly Tshibaka

### ~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional

Search:



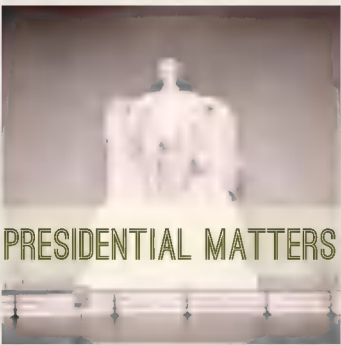
### Another Open Letter to President Obama

03 Thursday Oct 2013

Posted by [kushibaka](#) in [Uncategorized](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

 [Reblogged from Just Isaac.](#)



In light of the government shutdown and subsequent presidential address to the country, I feel compelled to write this letter to President Barack Obama. Perhaps in it you can find your own frustration that is beyond ideals, politics and policies. It is a frustration in leadership.

Dear Mr. President,

I readily admit I do not know the complexity of your role.


[Read more... 829 more words](#)

Our friend Isaac just visited us a couple weeks ago. I got a text from him earlier this week that made me feel really loved. It said something to the effect of: "I used to not care much about politics. But this shutdown is making me really angry." So he wrote this letter to the President. It's a great letter. But what I admire most of all about it is that, like with all things about Isaac, it's motivated by love -- love for our country, love for our leaders, and love for the people of the DC community.

### Post navigation

[← Previous post](#) [Next post →](#)

### Leave a Reply



(Address never displayed)

- ☐ Notify me of follow-up comments via email.
- ☐ Notify me of new posts via email.

Search:

### Follow Blog

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 904 other followers

### Recent Posts

- [Being Blind and Carrying Car Keys](#)
- [More relationship...](#)
- [Another Open Letter to President Obama](#)
- [You Can't Make This Up](#)
- [Burton's Take on Birth Control](#)

### Archives

- [October 2013](#)
- [September 2013](#)
- [August 2013](#)
- [June 2013](#)
- [May 2013](#)
- [April 2013](#)
- [March 2013](#)
- [February 2013](#)
- [January 2013](#)
- [December 2012](#)
- [November 2012](#)
- [October 2012](#)
- [September 2012](#)
- [August 2012](#)
- [July 2012](#)
- [June 2012](#)
- [May 2012](#)
- [April 2012](#)
- [March 2012](#)
- [January 2012](#)
- [December 2011](#)
- [November 2011](#)
- [October 2011](#)
- [September 2011](#)
- [August 2011](#)
- [July 2011](#)
- [April 2011](#)
- [March 2011](#)
- [February 2011](#)
- [January 2011](#)
- [December 2010](#)
- [November 2010](#)
- [October 2010](#)
- [September 2010](#)
- [August 2010](#)
- [July 2010](#)
- [June 2010](#)
- [May 2010](#)
- [April 2010](#)
- [March 2010](#)
- [February 2010](#)
- [January 2010](#)
- [December 2009](#)
- [November 2009](#)
- [October 2009](#)
- [September 2009](#)
- [August 2009](#)
- [July 2009](#)
- [June 2009](#)
- [May 2009](#)
- [March 2009](#)
- [February 2009](#)
- [January 2009](#)
- [December 2008](#)
- [November 2008](#)
- [October 2008](#)
- [September 2008](#)
- [August 2008](#)
- [July 2008](#)
- [June 2008](#)
- [May 2008](#)
- [April 2008](#)
- [March 2008](#)
- [February 2008](#)
- [January 2008](#)
- [December 2007](#)
- [November 2007](#)
- [October 2007](#)
- [September 2007](#)
- [August 2007](#)
- [July 2007](#)
- [June 2007](#)
- [May 2007](#)
- [April 2007](#)
- [March 2007](#)
- [February 2007](#)
- [January 2007](#)

### Categories

Select Category

[Blog at WordPress.com.](#) [The Chateau Theme.](#)

[Follow](#)

### Follow “Kelly Tshibaka”

Get every new post delivered to your Inbox.

Join 904 other followers

[Powered by WordPress.com](#)

%6d bloggers like this:



[illegible]

- [About](#)
- [Resources](#)
- [Speaking](#)

## Kelly Tshibaka

### ~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional

Search:



#### Button’s Take on Birth Control

16 Monday Sep 2013

Posted by [kushibaka](#) in [Uncategorized](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

**Denali:** Daddy, I can’t believe Mommy used to take birth control because she didn’t want to have me yet. Why wouldn’t she want me? I mean, I’m terrific! I’m amazing! I just don’t get it!

#### Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

#### Like this:

Like Loading...

#### Post navigation

[← Previous post](#) [Next post →](#)

#### Leave a Reply

 Email

- ☐ Notify me of follow-up comments via email.
- ☐ Notify me of new posts via email.

Search:

#### Follow Blog

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 904 other followers

#### Recent Posts

- [Being Blind and Carrying Car Keys](#)
- [More relationship...](#)
- [Another Open Letter to President Obama](#)
- [You Can't Make This Up](#)
- [Button's Take on Birth Control](#)

#### Archives

- [October 2013](#)
- [September 2013](#)
- [August 2013](#)
- [June 2013](#)
- [May 2013](#)
- [April 2013](#)
- [March 2013](#)
- [February 2013](#)
- [January 2013](#)
- [December 2012](#)
- [November 2012](#)
- [October 2012](#)
- [September 2012](#)
- [August 2012](#)
- [July 2012](#)
- [June 2012](#)
- [May 2012](#)
- [April 2012](#)
- [March 2012](#)
- [January 2012](#)
- [December 2011](#)
- [November 2011](#)
- [October 2011](#)
- [September 2011](#)
- [August 2011](#)
- [July 2011](#)
- [April 2011](#)
- [March 2011](#)
- [February 2011](#)
- [January 2011](#)
- [December 2010](#)
- [November 2010](#)
- [October 2010](#)
- [September 2010](#)
- [August 2010](#)
- [July 2010](#)
- [June 2010](#)
- [May 2010](#)
- [April 2010](#)
- [March 2010](#)
- [February 2010](#)
- [January 2010](#)
- [December 2009](#)
- [November 2009](#)
- [October 2009](#)
- [September 2009](#)
- [August 2009](#)
- [July 2009](#)
- [June 2009](#)
- [May 2009](#)
- [March 2009](#)
- [February 2009](#)
- [January 2009](#)
- [December 2008](#)
- [November 2008](#)
- [October 2008](#)
- [September 2008](#)
- [August 2008](#)
- [July 2008](#)
- [June 2008](#)
- [May 2008](#)
- [April 2008](#)
- [March 2008](#)
- [February 2008](#)
- [January 2008](#)
- [December 2007](#)
- [November 2007](#)
- [October 2007](#)
- [September 2007](#)
- [August 2007](#)
- [July 2007](#)
- [June 2007](#)
- [May 2007](#)
- [April 2007](#)
- [March 2007](#)
- [February 2007](#)
- [January 2007](#)

#### Categories

Select Category

[Blog at WordPress.com.](#) [The Chateau Theme.](#)

[Follow](#)

#### Follow “Kelly Tshibaka”

Get every new post delivered to your Inbox.

Join 904 other followers

Powered by [WordPress.com](#)

%d bloggers like this:

This XML file does not appear to have any style information associated with it. The document tree is shown below.

```
▼<OpenSearchDescription xmlns="http://a9.com/-/spec/opensearch/1.1/" xmlns:moz="http://www.mozilla.org/2006/browser/search/">
  <ShortName>Kelly Tshibaka</ShortName>
  ▼<Description>
    Search Kelly Tshibaka - Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional
  </Description>
  <Contact>support@wordpress.com</Contact>
  <Url type="application/atom+xml" template="http://kellytshibaka.com/?s={searchTerms}&feed=atom"/>
  <Url type="application/rss+xml" template="http://kellytshibaka.com/?s={searchTerms}&feed=rss2"/>
  <Url type="text/html" template="http://kellytshibaka.com/?s={searchTerms}" method="GET"/>
  <Url type="application/opensearchdescription+xml" rel="self" template="/osd.xml"/>
  <LongName>Kelly Tshibaka</LongName>
  <Image height="16" width="16" type="image/vnd.microsoft.icon">http://kellytshibaka.com/favicon.ico</Image>
  ▼<Image height="64" width="64" type="image/png">
    http://s0.wp.com/i/logo/gray-white-transparent-64.png
  </Image>
  <Query role="example" searchTerms="photography"/>
  ▼<Tags>
    parenting pastoring pioneering professional faith ministry-2 work parenting-pastoring parenting-professional-pastoring pioneering-pastoring
  </Tags>
  <Developer>Automattic</Developer>
  <SyndicationRight>open</SyndicationRight>
  <AdultContent>false</AdultContent>
  <Language>en</Language>
  <OutputEncoding>UTF-8</OutputEncoding>
  <InputEncoding>UTF-8</InputEncoding>
  <moz:SearchForm>http://kellytshibaka.com</moz:SearchForm>
</OpenSearchDescription>
```



- [About](#)
- [Resources](#)
- [Speaking](#)

## Kelly Tshibaka

### ~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional

Search:



## Monthly Archives: *April 2011*

### [Why is it so hard to believe?](#)

05 Tuesday Apr 2011

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [my spiritual journey](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

God gives you a word. It's confirmed. Again and again and again. It's Him. That's for sure. So then why is it so hard to believe? So painful?

I heard it can be because believing when it's hard is akin to birth — you're birthing things spiritually.

I wish there was an epidural for faith.

#### Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

#### Like this:

Like Loading...

### [Staying Focused](#)

04 Monday Apr 2011

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [deep thoughts](#), [discipling](#), [ministry](#), [my spiritual journey](#)

≈ [1 Comment](#)

A couple of months ago, I got up early and spent some time praying (mostly about our upcoming Foursquare convention and healing for people in our church). Towards the end of my prayer time, I passed out, hit my head, and was knocked unconscious. Unbelievable, but true! I suffered a serious concussion and damaged a part of my brain that controls my eyes' ability to focus. For several weeks I experienced severe double vision and had to wear a pirate patch! "Ayyyee, matey!" Yeah, I looked pretty banged up. But you should have seen the other guy!

While I was recovering, the Lord taught me a lot about the importance of focusing. When I didn't have my patch on, I'd get nauseous, run into things, and endanger myself and others (especially if I tried to drive!). It was only when I focused that I was able to accomplish my work, stay healthy, and get through the day safely.

The same is true for us spiritually. Staying focused on precisely what God has called us to do is critical to our effectiveness, health, and safety.

We see this spiritual truth illustrated in the story of Moses asking Pharaoh to release the people of Israel to go worship God in the desert. In response, Pharaoh "commanded the taskmasters over the people and their foremen, saying... 'Let the labor be heavier on the men, and let them work at it so that they will pay no attention to false words.'" (Exodus 5:6-9). Pharaoh set taskmasters over the people to oppress them even more than he already had. As a result, the people opposed Moses, concluding that God's words and His call on them were untrue.

In the same way, one of the enemy's strategies against us today is to burden us heavily with things to do—the tyranny of the urgent, the demands of work, or the pressures of life. And when we're under the affliction and oppression of the "Taskmaster," we often question God's words to us and His call on our lives. Our labor becomes an overwhelming burden, and we collapse under its weight. We begin to succumb to our doubt: as the Taskmaster intensifies his assault. And as we labor under the Taskmaster's yoke, we lose our strength, we lose our hope . . . and we lose our focus! We start doing a whole lot of things we weren't meant to do.

But we weren't created to do the work of the Taskmaster. We never were meant to labor under his yoke. Ours is the glorious calling to do the work of God by staying focused on what it is He has called us to do.

The Lord has given us individual gifts and callings. But there is one command that has remained constant from the time of His resurrection: Go, therefore, and make disciples of all the nations (Matthew 28:19). Just as the nation of Israel had a calling, so, too, does the church of Jesus Christ: Go and make disciples. This calling is neither optional nor untrue—it has been the same for all believers for all time. Staying focused on this calling is essential to accomplishing our mission, staying healthy, and ministering in an effective way.

#### Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

#### Like this:

Like Loading...

### [Thoughts on Sermons](#)

03 Sunday Apr 2011

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [Church](#), [ministry](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

Sermons for sermons sake are pointless. So often we treat sermons as ends in themselves—so much work goes into giving this oratory performance with the end goal being to deliver a "good" sermon (which most often is determined based on how entertaining it is).

I think sermons are supposed to be means, not ends—means to making disciples. If a sermon doesn't advance the mission of making disciples, then it's pretty much pointless.

I can't find anything in the Bible that talks about teaching, sermonizing with excellence merely for excellence sake. Instead, it seems like it's all to lead people to what's best for them, help people navigate the rapids of life, build people up in love, keep them from harm, ground them in truth so they don't get knocked over. Sermons are one of many tools used to help people live (and love) more like Jesus.

The only time I see eloquent, showy sermons in scripture is when Jesus is describing the Pharisees teaching style. They're a great show. But they don't come from a place of love. They don't help. They miss the heart of God.

But how much do my sermons accomplish that? How much do our Sunday mornings together accomplish that? And how much do we expect sermons to entertain more than to equip?

#### Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

#### Like this:

Like Loading...

### [Siah's Half Birthday](#)

02 Saturday Apr 2011

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [kid stories](#), [ministry](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)



We like to celebrate half birthdays. They're a great excuse to have fun, celebrate each other, and invite friends over to share life with us. We keep it easy—and silly. The theme is "half." So we have half a pizza, half a cake, and generally make it through half a movie. : D

For Siah's half birthday, we did just that, complete with dancing on the coffee table (myself included), playing video games, and watching Star Wars the Clone Wars (it's only fitting in the "Chewbacca's" house, after all).

Best part of the whole thing for me —next to doing something awesome for our kids —is loving on their friends. I want our family and our home to be a safe, fun place for them, too. I want to be a part of their lives, support them, enjoy them, and help them in times of need as they face life's challenges. If I'm going to be there for them then, I need to be there for them now. It's all about developing relationships with them such that they know that they know that they know that I love them.

#### Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

#### Like this:

Like Loading...

### [Influence](#)

01 Friday Apr 2011

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [Church](#), [ministry](#), [my spiritual journey](#), [spiritual truths](#)

≈ [2 Comments](#)



I walked around the buildings on Capitol Hill—where all the staffers, lobbyists, senators, and congressmen are. As I watched the staffers buzz between buildings and glimpsed cracked windows with hard-working policy makers tucked behind their computers, I couldn't help but think of how much influence these people have simply by virtue of where they are.

Just think of the people they encounter on a daily basis! Just think of how far a little Truth would go when spoken by these people! Just think of how a little love from someone inside could transform a district, a state, and even a nation! What influence even the "smallest" person in these halls possesses.

And as I sat there wanting to be one of them simply to have these kind of opportunities, I realized that it wasn't that long ago that I was one of them and I did have their influence. I worked on the Hill. I had one of those windows. I was tucked behind one of those computer screens. And what did I do with it?

[cricket]

It wasn't that I was ashamed of the Gospel of Christ. It wasn't that I wasn't living a life of Light. It was more that at the time, I didn't realize or appreciate the magnitude of my influence simply because of where I was placed. I was a nobody. What influence did I have? But now from the outside looking in, it's so easy to see. Why didn't I see it then?

Come to think of it, why am I standing here wishing I had the influence of these people when I'm uniquely positioned right where I am? I might be in a different office, but I'm still in the government. And I'm a lot higher up than I was when I worked on the Hill. And day by day I encounter people making incredibly significant decisions for our nation.

And why didn't I recognize I had this influence until now? How is that all these years later, I still think of myself as a "nobody," and I haven't appreciated the way God has "set my hind feet in high places"—giving me access to people and offices and decision-makers that countless people wish they could access. On the outside looking in, it must look like I'm in quite a position to have quite an influence. How is it that every day it is so hard for me to believe that I have been "placed here for such a time as this"—that where I am and when I am is not a coincidence?

What am I doing with the influence I have?

What are you doing with the influence you have?

#### Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

#### Like this:

Like Loading...

Search:

### Follow Blog

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 904 other followers

### Recent Posts

- [Being Blind and Carrying Car Keys](#)
- [More relationship...](#)
- [Another Open Letter to President Obama](#)
- [You Can't Make This Up](#)
- [Barton's Take on Birth Control](#)

### Archives

- [October 2013](#)
- [September 2013](#)
- [August 2013](#)
- [June 2013](#)
- [May 2013](#)
- [April 2013](#)
- [March 2013](#)
- [February 2013](#)
- [January 2013](#)
- [December 2012](#)
- [November 2012](#)
- [October 2012](#)
- [September 2012](#)
- [August 2012](#)
- [July 2012](#)
- [June 2012](#)
- [May 2012](#)
- [April 2012](#)
- [March 2012](#)
- [January 2012](#)
- [December 2011](#)
- [November 2011](#)
- [October 2011](#)
- [September 2011](#)
- [August 2011](#)
- [July 2011](#)
- [April 2011](#)
- [March 2011](#)
- [February 2011](#)
- [January 2011](#)
- [December 2010](#)
- [November 2010](#)
- [October 2010](#)
- [September 2010](#)
- [August 2010](#)
- [July 2010](#)
- [June 2010](#)
- [May 2010](#)
- [April 2010](#)
- [March 2010](#)
- [February 2010](#)
- [January 2010](#)
- [December 2009](#)
- [November 2009](#)
- [October 2009](#)
- [September 2009](#)
- [August 2009](#)
- [July 2009](#)
- [June 2009](#)
- [May 2009](#)
- [March 2009](#)
- [February 2009](#)
- [January 2009](#)
- [December 2008](#)
- [November 2008](#)
- [October 2008](#)
- [September 2008](#)
- [August 2008](#)
- [July 2008](#)
- [June 2008](#)
- [May 2008](#)
- [April 2008](#)
- [March 2008](#)
- [February 2008](#)
- [January 2008](#)
- [December 2007](#)
- [November 2007](#)
- [October 2007](#)
- [September 2007](#)
- [August 2007](#)
- [July 2007](#)
- [June 2007](#)
- [May 2007](#)
- [April 2007](#)
- [March 2007](#)
- [February 2007](#)
- [January 2007](#)

### Categories

Select Category

[Blog at WordPress.com. The Chateau Theme.](#)

[Follow](#)

### Follow “Kelly Tshibaka”

Get every new post delivered to your Inbox.

Join 904 other followers

Powered by [WordPress.com](#)

%6d bloggers like this:









- [About](#)
- [Resources](#)
- [Speaking](#)

# Kelly Tshibaka

## ~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional

Search:

Go



## Monthly Archives: *September 2009*

### Hormones

25 Friday Sep 2009

Posted by [kushibaka](#) in [deep thoughts](#), [spiritual truths](#), [women's topics](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

There. I said it. The "H" word!

Ugh, those blasted hormones. One of those things women have to deal with a whole lot. And perpetually! Once we think we've got it down, our bodies "change" and we've got to start all over.

I had a hormone week recently. I got so mad in a meeting that I was clenching my teeth so hard they hurt for days. It wasn't until DAYS later that I realized why: hormones.

See, here's the thing about me and hormones: they don't come regularly, which means they aren't predictable – in timing, effect, or intensity. So basically, I don't *know* when a hormone is going to show up and whether it's going to be Weeny Wilma, Overly Empathetic Emily, or I'm Gonna-Chop-Off-Your-Head Thelma. I can go for months without any classic "hormonal" signs, and then one day start imagining how easy it would be to decapitate someone... And on top of it all, in the moment I am completely oblivious to the fact that this isn't the "real me."

And I ain't the only one! Beth Moore (an awesome Christian teacher) surveyed several hundred women and asked them what the hardest part about being a woman was — many of them listed hormones in their top three.

But you know what else I realized? God made women with hormones — *intentionally!* They were there from the beginning of Eve's creation. They weren't a product of the fall. PMS was not a curse Eve received after she ate of the forbidden fruit.

Which means, hormones must be *good*. When God made Adam and Eve, and all the rest of creation, He said it was "good." Everything about pre-sin Eve was good – even her hormones (and her cellulite-prone skin structure)!

So, too, my hormones – as erratic as they are – must be good. God loves our humanity – He loves His creation. My hormones are not "out of His will," – though, I will admit that they make living in His will more of a challenge!

#### Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

#### Like this:

Like Loading...

### A Form of Bible Study: Lectio Divina

18 Friday Sep 2009

Posted by [kushibaka](#) in [Bible study](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

Lectio Divina

Preparation (Silencio): Before you begin the process, close your eyes, still your spirit, and spend a few minutes in silence. Prepare your heart to receive God's Word, and allow yourself to become consciously aware of His presence with you. Express your willingness (or, at the very least, your willingness to be made willing) to hear from Him. It could be a short, simple prayer, like: "Come, Lord Jesus," or "Here I am," or "Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening."

Read (Lectio): Read a passage of Scripture slowly, either silently or out loud (first reading). As you read it, listen for a word or phrase that strikes you, or arrests your attention. It's a word or phrase that will stand out from among the rest. It may create in you some kind of visceral reaction, like a deep sense of resonance or resistance in your spirit. When you're done reading the passage, take a few moments of silence to repeat the word or phrase to yourself. Don't analyze it, or seek to understand it, or try to figure out what it means! But use observation skills to see what is really there.

Reflect (Meditatio): Now that a word or phrase has resonated with you, take time to read the passage again (your second reading). Then, in silence, listen for how the passage—especially the word or phrase that has stood out to you—connects with your life. How has your life been touched or impacted by this passage of Scripture, or by the word or phrase in it that has resonated with your spirit? What is it in your life right now that needs to hear and respond to what you've just read? If the passage is a story, you might ask yourself where you are in the story. How does the story connect with your own life experience? What do you hear as you imagine yourself in the story, or as you hear words or phrases in the story addressed specifically to you?

Respond (Oratio): Now that you've taken some time to reflect on the passage, and on the words or phrases that have resonated with your spirit, read the passage again (this is your third reading). When you're done reading, pay careful attention to how your spirit is responding to what you've just read—your natural, instinctive response to the passage of Scripture—and share that with the Lord in prayer. What is your deepest and truest reaction to the passage of Scripture, or (more specifically) to the word or phrase in that passage that has resonated with you? Maybe the Scripture has addressed a place of pain or frustration in your life. Maybe it has opened your eyes to something about yourself that you previously had not realized. Or maybe it has convicted you of a sin in your life. Whatever your reaction may be, honestly and openly articulate to the Lord how your spirit is responding to the Scripture. At this point, you're entering into a personal dialogue with the Lord, sharing with Him the emotions and reactions that the text has awakened or aroused in you. As you do this, pay careful attention to any sense you may have that God is inviting you to act or respond in some way to whatever part or parts of the Scripture that have resonated with your spirit.

Rest (Contemplatio): Read the text one last time (your fourth reading), and take some time to rest in the Word of God. Rest in silence in God's presence, in a posture of complete surrender and abandon, like a weaned child leans against its mother. (Psalm 131:2: But I have stilled and quieted my soul; like a weaned child with its mother, like a weaned child is my soul within me.") Like a weaned child, you've received what you needed from the Lord, and you can now rest in (and enjoy) His presence, knowing that He will enable and empower you to do whatever He has asked of you.

Resolve (Incarnatio): After completing your time of contemplatio, incarnate (live out) God's Word. As you emerge from this time alone with God, resolve to carry out His word—to respond faithfully to whatever invitation, challenge, admonition, instruction, or encouragement you've heard from Him. Choose to live out His Word to you in the context of your daily life. Throughout the day, continue to listen to and meditate on the word or phrase that resonated with you in the passage of Scripture you read. As you do that, you'll develop an ever-deeper understanding of its meaning and significance, until that word or phrase begins to live in you, and you begin to live it out!

#### Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

#### Like this:

Like Loading...

### Button Started Softball

02 Wednesday Sep 2009

Posted by [kushibaka](#) in [kid stories](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)



Button had her first softball practice this past weekend – August 29th, to be exact. The date matters – this quite likely could be the start of her professional career!

But seriously, she's wanted to play softball for the past 3 years – when she started coming with me to the softball fields to coach girls in fast pitching. Softball was the sport I most enjoyed in my childhood and the one I have kept up with the most (ice hockey is a close second). So it totally warms my heart that she shares this interest with me, and I really, really hope she continues to! How fun it would be for this to be one of our family activities – to share these experiences together, to coach her teams, to watch her victories and triumphs!

And it also was cool to see how natural she was, and how excited and focused she is about it. At one point she dove for the ball while fielding a grounder and threw an out at first base. In another instance, she charged the adult playing second to get around an out! And she's even the youngest on the team! Wearing my "mom" hat, I was happy for her, but wearing my "coach" hat, I was impressed. Oh, I'm a proud mama!

#### Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

#### Like this:

Like Loading...

### Lost Superpowers!

02 Wednesday Sep 2009

Posted by [kushibaka](#) in [kid stories](#), [spiritual truths](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

Button's softball practice, Siyah spotted some particularly appealing playground equipment a good hike off from the softball field. He really wanted to go play, and I told him he could go – he's a big boy now, after all.

Well, he made several brave attempts – each one a little farther than the previous – but all ending the same...with Siyah returning in tears to me. The last time was the worst, though. He almost made it all the way over there and then started hollering at the top of his lungs, crying his little heart out.

When he got back to the benches, he sobbed in my lap, and said, "MAMA! I LOST MY SUPER POWERS! I CAN'T GO OVER THERE! MY SUPERPOWERS ARE GONE!!!"

I empathized and asked him what he wanted to do.

"I WANT JESUS TO COME DOWN HERE AND GO OVER THERE WITH ME! JESUS!!! JESUS!!!" "I don't know WHAT the other softball parents were thinking at this point. I told Siyah that Jesus was with him – that He gave us His Spirit so that those who believe in Him have the Spirit of Jesus living in them. And the Bible tells us that He will never leave us or forsake us – so He's with him now.

Siyah's response was simple, "But I can't see him!" And then again, sobbing, "JESUS!!! JESUS!!!"

Kristen was with us – so I suggested to Siyah that Miss Kristen and I go with him to try to find his superpowers again. He liked that idea. He cried the whole long walk but finally got us to the place where he allegedly lost his superpowers. I asked him where they went – into the woods. I reminded him that Jesus was with him, that his powers come from Jesus, that Jesus never left, and that he has all he needs to keep walking. And he did, one step at a time, all the way to the play ground...where he had a big grin on his face!

#### Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

#### Like this:

Like Loading...

### Lost Patience

02 Wednesday Sep 2009

Posted by [kushibaka](#) in [deep thoughts](#), [kid stories](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

At daycare one day, Button had a less than good day. She was starting to act grumpy, getting frustrated with her friends. But she stopped herself and declared, "GUYS! I think I left my good attitude and patience at home on my bed this morning with my pluk blanket. I'm going to go sit in time out until I feel better."

Later that day, all the kids were in the yard staring intently at something on the ground. Candice asked them if they found a bug. "No!" the kids replied. "We're trying to help Button find her patience! She lost it!!!"

#### Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

#### Like this:

Like Loading...

Search:

Go

### Follow Blog

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 904 other followers

Follow

### Recent Posts

- [Being Blind and Carrying Cat Keys](#)
- [More relational...](#)
- [Another Open Letter to President Obama](#)
- [You Can't Make This Up](#)
- [Button's Take on Birth Control](#)

### Archives

- [October 2013](#)
- [September 2013](#)
- [August 2013](#)
- [June 2013](#)
- [May 2013](#)
- [April 2013](#)
- [March 2013](#)
- [February 2013](#)
- [January 2013](#)
- [December 2012](#)
- [November 2012](#)
- [October 2012](#)
- [September 2012](#)
- [August 2012](#)
- [July 2012](#)
- [June 2012](#)
- [May 2012](#)
- [April 2012](#)
- [March 2012](#)
- [January 2012](#)
- [December 2011](#)
- [November 2011](#)
- [October 2011](#)
- [September 2011](#)
- [August 2011](#)
- [July 2011](#)
- [April 2011](#)
- [March 2011](#)
- [February 2011](#)
- [January 2011](#)
- [December 2010](#)
- [November 2010](#)
- [October 2010](#)
- [September 2010](#)
- [August 2010](#)
- [July 2010](#)
- [June 2010](#)
- [May 2010](#)
- [April 2010](#)
- [March 2010](#)
- [February 2010](#)
- [January 2010](#)
- [December 2009](#)
- [November 2009](#)
- [October 2009](#)
- [September 2009](#)
- [August 2009](#)
- [July 2009](#)
- [June 2009](#)
- [May 2009](#)
- [March 2009](#)
- [February 2009](#)
- [January 2009](#)
- [December 2008](#)
- [November 2008](#)
- [October 2008](#)
- [September 2008](#)
- [August 2008](#)
- [July 2008](#)
- [June 2008](#)
- [May 2008](#)
- [April 2008](#)
- [March 2008](#)
- [February 2008](#)
- [January 2008](#)
- [December 2007](#)
- [November 2007](#)
- [October 2007](#)
- [September 2007](#)
- [August 2007](#)
- [July 2007](#)
- [June 2007](#)
- [May 2007](#)
- [April 2007](#)
- [March 2007](#)
- [February 2007](#)
- [January 2007](#)

### Categories

Select Category

[Blog at WordPress.com](#). [The Chateau Theme](#).

[Follow](#)

### Follow “Kelly Tshibaka”

Get every new post delivered to your Inbox.

Join 904 other followers

Enter your email address

Sign me up

Powered by [WordPress.com](#)

%sd bloggers like this:

- [About](#)
- [Resources](#)
- [Speaking](#)

## Kelly Tshibaka

### ~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional

Search:



## Monthly Archives: August 2008

### Button's Special Eyes

29 Friday Aug 2008

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [kid stories](#), [ministry](#), [my spiritual journey](#), [raising kids](#), [spiritual truths](#)

≈ [2 Comments](#)

So Button often sees things in the spiritual realm that others do not see. This often goes hand-in-hand with a prophetic or perceiver gifting. But sometimes it gets stifled in childhood because adults don't believe the child and think they're making it up. So the child starts ignoring it, tuning it out, and convincing herself that what she sees is not really there. And soon the gift goes. The lack of faith stifles the gift.

A friend of mine, Dawn, also saw saw things in the spiritual realm when she was a child, and the Button stories are very familiar to her. She encouraged me to talk to Button, explain her gifting, and encourage her in it so that she would not be discouraged every time she saw something and I didn't.

So I sat down with Button on her bed and told her I needed to tell her a secret. That got her full attention! Then I told her that I didn't see things like she sees them. I reminded her of the rainbow, and daddy's candy cane, and I said I didn't see them and I never have. Her face totally dropped, and I could tell that she was questioning what was wrong with her and whether she really saw them either.

I quickly continued and told her that she has special eyes – that they are a gift from God so she can see things that others can't see. I told her God lets her see things that I can't see so she can tell me about them. She understood and became really excited about her special eyes.

Then she shifted her eyes to look at the wall across the room and without twitching a muscle she whispered to me, "Mama, there's a window over there."

I laughed. "I know, Button. I can see the window!"

Then she looked at the floor and whispered to me, "Mama, there's a shadow down there."

I laughed again. "I KNOW, Button! I can see the shadow! I can see just about everything you can see." I started to get up to go, and she was laughing, too.

"Like the rainbows all over my room, right Mama? You see all the rainbows that just came in the room."

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### Dreams Really Do Come True

29 Friday Aug 2008

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [ministry](#), [my spiritual journey](#), [stories from a pioneer church](#), [women's topics](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

This morning I was praying (crying) to God about crushed dreams. More specifically, my heart yearns to be doing ministry full time and it seems like that's forever away. So I feel like my dream has been crushed.

Well, no sooner did I speak (sob) the words, "Lord, I just feel like my dream has been crushed, and it's killing me" did this thought pop into my head: *That's funny. Because when I look around, I see a lot of your dreams coming true.*

Now, it might have been me, or it might have been God, but I'll tell you – I stopped sobbing and started listening.

*I see your adoption about to move into a building, something you thought would never happen. You looked for a year, and nothing was in the right spot, in the right layout, or for the right price. And now, here it is.*

Yeah, you're right.

*I see you getting to do a lot of God-stuff at work, between fellowships, and bible studies, and rewarding spiritual conversations with people you care about. Wasn't that something you desperately wanted and thought would never happen?*

Yes – oh, I hadn't thought of that. That is a huge answer to prayer.

*I see you knowing your dreams and your calling, and moving in them. Remember when you were crying not too long ago about not having any dreams or even knowing what your purpose was? You asked for those dreams to be awakened in you. Now here you are with all kinds of dreams you're passionate about. And you're getting to act on them, even though not as completely as you'd like to...yet.*

[no more tears]

*Kelly, I know your dreams. And I love giving them to you. I've done the impossible with your dreams already. Don't you think I can do it again?*

[big smile]

Thanks, God.

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### The Cause/Effect Relationship between Trust and Disappointment

28 Thursday Aug 2008

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [my spiritual journey](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

[Mother of All Boomerangs Series]

*Anyone who trusts in Him will never be disappointed. 1 Pet. 2:6*

There is a cause/effect relationship between trusting in Jesus and not being disappointed. The reaction of disappointment flows from a deficit of trust.

More precisely, the word "disappointed" here also is translated "shame" and "make haste." The connotation is not one of mere circumstance (like I'm disappointed I missed your party), but one of personal identity. Whenever we seek our value, worth, or identity through something that's not Jesus, we set ourselves up for deep disappointment. Whether it's other people's opinions of us, our own skills and abilities, or career accomplishments – it does not matter. They all will fall short, our identity will be implicated, and the disappointment and shame will set in deep.

The key to avoiding disappointment and shame is trusting in Him. Keeping our eyes focused on Him keeps our spirits lifted. But focusing on situations, people, or ourselves inevitably leads to shame and disappointment. Perspective is the source of joy.

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### Diet-to-Go

27 Wednesday Aug 2008

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [balancing it all](#), [recommendations](#), [women's topics](#)

≈ [2 Comments](#)

So get this – I may have discovered an incredible solution to several challenges for me personally and our family.

A friend recommended to me Diet-to-Go, a program in which you sign up for a certain number of meals online or over the phone, they prepare them fresh, and deliver them to a pick up location of your choice for you to pick up twice a week. The food is healthy, designed for you to lose weight, and you don't have to cook, clean up, or shop.

It's a little more expensive than what we would get at the grocery store, but we're not throwing any food away, we're eating healthy, the food is good, and the meals are varied. PLUS, I am free from the thing that causes me the most stress every weekday – planning and preparing dinner. I am happier, have more time with the children, and feel great knowing that Niki and I are eating well and losing weight.

It's like a win-win-win-win situation!

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### As We Forgive Those

27 Wednesday Aug 2008

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [my spiritual journey](#), [stories from a pioneer church](#)

≈ [1 Comment](#)

*Give us today the food we need, and forgive us our sins, as we have forgiven those who sin against us. Matthew 6:11-12*

I say the "Lord's Prayer" (Matt 6:9-13) every day. No doubt the result of highly effective modeling from my mother when I was 4 years old. That's when I learned it. And I've since passed it on to our children.

I thought I comprehended completely what this prayer meant. But 2 weeks ago, I realized something I had never realized before. The clauses on forgiveness follow, via conjunction, the clause on "daily bread."

Put another way, this prayer makes clear that we are to pray daily for the food we need—the only way you can have "daily bread" or food for "today" is if you request it daily. And the clause on daily bread is connected with an "and" to the clauses on forgiveness. Which means we are to seek God's forgiveness and we are to forgive others daily.

I don't like admitting *how* God revealed this to me, but it's key, so here it goes. Awhile back I was hurt deeply by someone close to me. At the time it happened, I wrestled through the process of forgiveness, but did it. I thought it was done and over. If anyone asked me how I felt about that person (which people did), I was able to respond from a posture of forgiveness. I really thought the issue was over, done, and in the past.

And it was. Except that a series of really small things over a long period of time — omissions and commissions alike — built up in me. Super small things that didn't even make my radar screen of needing to be forgiven. So I let them go and didn't attend to them. Until I realized 2 weeks ago that they had taken on a life of their own. Not only had they hurt in and of themselves, but they also dug up all those old things I thought I had released. I thought that patch of garden was free and clear; but little seeds had made their way in overtime and developed into a thorny briar patch when I wasn't looking.

So I had to go through the whole process again. And I gotta tell you, I *hate* weeding. Whether it's the garden of my soul or the yard around our house — it isn't for me. I resent having to clean up what I should have prevented in the first place.

But I did it. And in the process, I learned an important lesson. Every day when I say the Lord's prayer, I'm now pausing and letting Him search my heart for things that happened that day that I need to forgive. And even better, I find myself forgiving after incidents throughout the day — not just once at the end. My goal is that whenever that fleeting feeling of "ehh..." or "oooh" crosses my heart, I will immediately turn and lay it down at His feet so I'm not carrying it even for a minute.

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### Button's Spirit-Led Prayer

27 Wednesday Aug 2008

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [His mysterious ways](#), [kid stories](#), [ministry](#), [raising kids](#), [spiritual truths](#), [stories from a pioneer church](#)

≈ [1 Comment](#)

This story was told to me by my fellowship, and it is re-told here, in Katie's words:

Before church this Sunday, I went upstairs to talk to Kelly and found Kelly praying over her daughter who was sick with a low-grade fever that morning. Kelly commanded the fever to leave her daughter's body and, after praying, noted that the fever had decreased 1 degree already.

Since I had never attempted to heal another through prayer before, I thought it might be a good chance for me to step out of my comfort zone and join in this endeavor. I put my hands on Kelly's daughter and commanded the fever to leave her body, and as I did so I felt my body heat up significantly. After the prayer, we again noted the fever had decreased an additional degree.

I took this opportunity to ask Kelly's young daughter, only 4 years old, to help pray for me and my feet. I asked her if she understood the process of prayer, and that she would be commanding my feet to be healed. She said she understood, so we began. As she prayed, she said, "Dear Lord, please heal the feet of Lily's (my niece's) grandmother. I thank you God, and I love You. You take the pain away." Not sure whether she had just misspoken, I clarified that she knew I was not Lily's grandmother, but her aunt, and she said she understood. I then asked her if she meant to pray for Lily's grandmother, and she said yes. So, I further asked, "Did God tell you to pray for Lily's grandmother?" And she assured me that He had.

Knowing that my mother, Lily's grandmother, does have painful joints and such, I wrote her a text message to find out how she was doing today, telling her that one of the children in the church prayed for her when I had asked them to pray for me. I did not receive a response until after church, but what she said accounted me. Her text read, "Have a long day at work today, since working a double...Need feet prayers?" And, I assured her that these prayers had already been sent up through the faith of a child!

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### A Point of Clarification

25 Monday Aug 2008

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [deep thoughts](#), [general ministry](#), [my spiritual journey](#), [personal](#)

≈ [2 Comments](#)

Several of my blog readers have said that reading my blog makes them sad for me or makes them think that I am really down and depressed. Even when I write something that I intend to be inspiring or praiseworthy, some have commented that it has the opposite effect – it evokes sympathy or despondency.

This is not at all what I wanted or intended! And it could not be farther from the truth. The truth is, I have never experienced joy the way I have been experiencing it during this season of my life. I grow in joy more and more each day, despite struggles and hardships. When I think of myself, I don't think of despondency, depression, down-ness, or moopy-ness. I think of joy, contagious laughter, awe, and effervescence. I don't think of Eyore; I think of Tigger.

Moreover, I discuss my challenges and struggles for the purpose of setting a backdrop for God's greatness and work in my life. Let me explain. Think of a straight, plain road — like that terribly long stretch of highway between Texas and New Mexico where there's nothing, not even a radio signal. That's how some people's lives are. Yeah, there's nothing "bad" going on, but there's also nothing fun, exciting, new, or encouraging either. It's just life as normal — long, straight, and boring.

Now, think of a roller coaster. It has lows, but it also has incredible highs. It can be scary, but it also can be exhilarating. It can make you cry, but it also can make you scream with enthusiasm. I can make you lose your stomach, but it's also the most fun you've ever had.

That's what my life is like. I share the lows in order to demonstrate how incredible the highs are. I share my fears so I can show how exhilarating my victories are. I share my tears so I can explain why I laugh as uproariously as I do. I share the things that turn my stomach so I can explain why this is the most fun I've ever had.

And I believe this is biblical. Jesus said He came that we may have life abundantly. Not just life, but ABUNDANT life. A whole lot of it. And then some. Really high highs, and really low lows, and really really high highs. He also said he wished that we were cold or hot people rather than lukewarm people. (Rev. 3:16) I am definitely not lukewarm. About anything.

So, rest assured. I experience *more* joy than I ever could imagine. All of us die, but not all of us truly live. I am truly living.

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### Joy In All Things

25 Monday Aug 2008

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [my other day job](#), [my spiritual journey](#), [personal](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

No doubt you've noticed I haven't been blogging much lately. Long story short — work's been really tough and I haven't had the energy, time, or enthusiasm. BUT, I am learning how to have joy in all things. And that's priceless. : D

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### Nice Girls

15 Friday Aug 2008

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [kid stories](#), [ministry](#), [stories from a pioneer church](#), [women's topics](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

The other day, before church, Button walked up to a woman in our fellowship with a book.

"Auntie? You should read this book."

The woman responded, "Ok! Sure!" thinking Button wanted her to read it to Button and the other kids. But then Button walked off, completely uninterested in listening to the story.

The woman turned the book over and the cover said, "Nice Girls Don't Change the World." Suffice it to say, the book spoke exactly to an area in which this woman was working to grow spiritually.

How cool is that???

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

← Older posts

Search:

### Follow Blog

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 904 other followers

### Recent Posts

- [Being Blind and Carrying Car Keys](#)
- [Another Open Letter to President Obama](#)
- [You Can't Make This Up](#)
- [Button's Take on Birth Control](#)

### Archives

- [October 2013](#)
- [September 2013](#)
- [August 2013](#)
- [June 2013](#)
- [May 2013](#)
- [April 2013](#)
- [March 2013](#)
- [February 2013](#)
- [January 2013](#)
- [December 2012](#)
- [November 2012](#)
- [October 2012](#)
- [September 2012](#)
- [August 2012](#)
- [July 2012](#)
- [June 2012](#)
- [May 2012](#)
- [April 2012](#)
- [March 2012](#)
- [January 2012](#)
- [December 2011](#)
- [November 2011](#)
- [October 2011](#)
- [September 2011](#)
- [August 2011](#)
- [July 2011](#)
- [June 2011](#)
- [May 2011](#)
- [April 2011](#)
- [March 2011](#)
- [February 2011](#)
- [January 2011](#)
- [December 2010](#)
- [November 2010](#)
- [October 2010](#)
- [September 2010](#)
- [August 2010](#)
- [July 2010](#)
- [June 2010](#)
- [May 2010](#)
- [April 2010](#)
- [March 2010](#)
- [February 2010](#)
- [January 2010](#)
- [December 2009](#)
- [November 2009](#)
- [October 2009](#)
- [September 2009](#)
- [August 2009](#)
- [July 2009](#)
- [June 2009](#)
- [May 2009](#)
- [March 2009](#)
- [February 2009](#)
- [January 2009](#)
- [December 2008](#)
- [November 2008](#)
- [October 2008](#)
- [September 2008](#)
- [August 2008](#)
- [July 2008](#)
- [June 2008](#)
- [May 2008](#)
- [April 2008](#)
- [March 2008](#)
- [February 2008](#)
- [January 2008](#)
- [December 2007](#)
- [November 2007](#)
- [October 2007](#)
- [September 2007](#)
- [August 2007](#)
- [July 2007](#)
- [June 2007](#)
- [May 2007](#)
- [April 2007](#)
- [March 2007](#)
- [February 2007](#)
- [January 2007](#)

### Categories

Select Category ▾

Blog at WordPress.com: The Chateau Theme.

Follow

Follow "Kelly Tshibaka"

Get every new post delivered to your Inbox.

Join 904 other followers

Powered by [WordPress.com](#)

96d bloggers like this:





- [About me](#)
- [Resources](#)
- [Speaking](#)

## Kelly Tshibaka

### ~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional



## Monthly Archives: January 2009

### My Work Situation Is Good

31 Saturday Jan 2009

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [my other day job](#), [my spiritual journey](#), [spiritual truths](#), [women's topics](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

*The lines have fallen to me in pleasant places;  
Yes, I have a good inheritance. Ps. 16:6*

My work situation has been challenging. And I've wanted to change jobs for a long time. And I've tried. But between circumstance (my resume has disappeared, the economy has recessed, etc.) and words from the Lord, I know that I am not to leave at this time.

For a long time, I've gone into work begrudgingly. Day after day, resentfully hailing in my cross to bear. My attitude has been something like, "How long, O Lord!!!"

But then I realized that this situation -- and its immovable nature -- are a "line" in my life. And the Bible says that our lines have fallen in pleasant places. So my work situation must be pleasant. For me, that requires a serious shift in perspective -- to think of this situation as pleasant. And yet, God must know something I don't. Because He has drawn this line and He says it is pleasant.

So I'm exchanging my "Meribah attitude" (the complaining heart that the people of Israel demonstrated at Meribah) for His perspective. This is pleasant, and I will praise Him for it. He says to praise Him in all things (1 Thessalonians 5:18). And what I'm doing is an act of worship -- a sacrifice for His sake -- so I must approach this with a worshipper's heart.

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

Like this:

Like Loading...

### Insight of a Child: Fire of the Lord

31 Saturday Jan 2009

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [kid stories](#), [raising kids](#), [spiritual truths](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

The kids asked me to tell them a story about a ghost. So I told them the story of how the Holy Ghost came upon the disciples at Pentecost, and they were filled with power and their spirit languages, and flames of fire danced over their heads -- the fire didn't touch their heads, but it was over their heads.

At this point, Burton chimed in and said, "like the tabernacle!" It took me a minute to figure out what she was talking about. Then I remembered we had read the story about how a cloud of fire hovered over the tabernacle during Israel's exodus through the desert. God was in the fire, and when the cloud moved, the people moved too.

I had never made this connection before, but surely the disciples did. The flames of fire over their head were incontrovertible evidence that God now dwelt in their beings rather than in a building. Truly, God was with them, just as He foretold (Emmanuel -- "God with us"). He lived in them, dwelt in them, and His presence filled them -- just as was true of the tabernacle.

*Don't you know that you yourselves are God's temple and that God's Spirit lives in you? 1 Cor. 3:16*

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

Like this:

Like Loading...

### Step of Faith

29 Thursday Jan 2009

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [my spiritual journey](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

This step of faith might be leading me to take a big step of faith in something. I don't know what it possibly could be, but I've received this word 3 times in the past 4-6 weeks: Like Peter, if you don't get out of the boat, you'll never walk on water.

So this is my prayer for now: "God, I'm kinda picking up on a pattern here with this word. And I know it might be for me. Are you asking me to take a big step of faith? If so, how so?"

In the meantime, I'm putting on my "spiritual detective" hat and keeping an eye out for clues...

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

Like this:

Like Loading...

### A Letter to the President

27 Tuesday Jan 2009

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [kid stories](#)

≈ [1 Comment](#)

Tonight, Burton was talking to me about a letter she is writing at daycare for our new president. After discussing her heart for the letter, I encouraged that she write something like, "Dear Mr. President, please love the Lord our God with all your heart, mind, soul, and strength."

She contradicted me, though, and said she wanted to write, "Mr. Barack Hussein Obama, don't worry -- you are our president, even though we don't know who you are. But you are our president. Love, Burton, Slah, Mommy and Daddy." [this is a direct quote]

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

Like this:

Like Loading...

### Verues for our Church this Year

20 Tuesday Jan 2009

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [Bible study](#), [His mysterious ways](#), [stories from a pioneer church](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

We had a prayer service last week in church and spent our time seeking God's word for our body moving forward this year. These were the words given, and my thoughts on them (there is a conclusion/summary at the end):

*"If you do not stand firm in your faith, you will not stand at all." Isa 7:9b*

*This verse also was given to me by Niki's dad in October 2008. So this is a confirmation.*

*Learning to believe is an ongoing, present process. I am in the process of learning a lot of things right now; it's good to keep in mind that it's something that will happen daily and will not be done overnight (even though I want it to be).*

*Faith comes before protection, and there's some sort of causal relationship between the two.*

*Prior to this verse, it says the Israelites' hearts were shaken/trembled with fear. It also says God told them, "stop worrying; don't fear."*

*Believing what God says is standing firm in faith. Challenge is to stand firm and believe when our hearts are shaken, when we're worried, and when we're afraid. In those times, believe. Or else what we fear will happen. There is power in what we believe.*

*Application for me and for our church: I will not worry about the building, or when we'll get in. I will not fear that my situation is forever. I have started to doubt the promises of God and started to give in to the shakiness of my heart. These are the counter promises that I choose to believe: I will burn without burning out. We will bear more fruit. It will be dynamic. I will be still. The Egyptians I see in front of me won't be there much longer. God's timing is perfect. His grace is sufficient.*

*"Don't be afraid; just trust me/believe" Mark 5:36b*

*Jesus whispers these words to us to build our faith. The opposite of fear is trusting God/believing. It is critical that our church trust in and believe God during this time. Perhaps we should identify and catalog the words and promises He has given us?*

*"Because of your faith, it will happen." Matt 9:29*

*Faith is believing what God says (Isa 7:9), what He can (not "will") do, and pursuing Him for it (Matt 9:28). In this instance, the blind had their sight restored. The impossible happens (healing) AND they now have eyes to see the things of God.*

*"Because you have so little faith. I tell you the truth, if you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there' and it will move. Nothing will be impossible for you." Matt. 17:20-21 (some versions add "these only come out with prayer and fasting")*

*Spiritual battles (deliverance and protection) are won with the smallest amount of faith (see faith verses above).*

*NOTHING would be impossible -- what are the things I've lost hope in? think are impossible?*

*Add's praying and fasting to comments on faith.*

*"When I am afraid, I will trust in you. In God, whose word I praise, in God I trust; I will not be afraid. What can mortal man do to me?" Ps. 56:3-4*

*In periods of fear, choose to trust. Our church must choose to trust. Once in a place of trust, you will not fear. Here we see fear of man introduced -- what can mere mortals do? We must guard against fear of man. We also must praise God's word -- which means we must know His word. (Josh 1:8). Trust in the Lord (and lean not on your own understanding, in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will direct your paths). -- here we see fear of man again, and pride (acknowledging God rather than yourself or others).*

*"and my message and my preaching were not in persuasive words of wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, so that your faith would not rest on the wisdom of men, but on the power of God." 1 Cor. 2:4-5*

*When the message and preaching are less cerebral, the Holy Spirit is powerful among the people. This is an intentional effort to make oratory less academic and more widely accessible. Here again we see an encouragement to trust in the power of God rather than human wisdom or ability (which hearkens back to 1) the fear of man concept and 2) in all our ways acknowledging God and He will direct our paths).*

*"Let us not lose heart in doing good, for in due time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up." Gal 6:9*

*We can anticipate feeling tired, discouraged, and weary. But don't let it sick. We WILL reap a harvest of blessing. And the appropriate time (trust in timing for the building, fruit from our efforts, the funding, the adoption, etc.) (this goes directly to the notion of waiting on the Lord). Do not give up (see Isa. 7:9) our faith or our efforts.*

*Parable of the persistent widow who continued to seek justice from an unjust judge, who finally relented because of her persistence. Lk 18:1-8*

*We are to 1) pray persistently, 2) fast, 3) recall and set our hopes on the promises of God, 4) believe what God says, 5) believe that He can do the impossible, 6) choose to trust God instead of being afraid, 7) guard against operating out of fear of man (instead, be driven by fear of the Lord), 8) humble ourselves, 9) increase our consumption/teaching of the Word of God, and 10) keep our teaching and preaching based on the Spirit and power rather than on human wisdom.*

*God promises to answer our prayers, to do the impossible (display miracles), to protect us, and fill us with joy. God promises that we will be fruitful. And then even more fruitful. We will reap a harvest. And we will find rest.*

*Steps from here as church: a) identify promises God has given us that we can better hold to them, b) identify things we've stopped praying or lost hope for, c) implement corporate fasts, d) provide more opportunities for teaching, and allow other members in the body to have opportunities to teach, e) increase our worshipping, that we would be full of joy and have victories.*

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

Like this:

Like Loading...

### What God is Doing In My Life Right Now...I Think

17 Saturday Jan 2009

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [my spiritual journey](#), [personal](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

A friend posed a question to me a couple months ago: "Where do you find fulfillment? What anchors you? Is your primary calling and gifting to be an attorney and your confidence there allows you to carry that over into ministry?"

I've spent considerable time contemplating it. Turns out she hit on something really deep that God's been gradually working on in me -- where I find the source of my strength, purpose, and identity.

Essentially, He's been flattening me in every area of my life to show me that I've been trying to "do it all" on my own strength. As a result, I'm caught up in a lot of doo-ing (not unlike what Josiah did in 2 Kings 23:26) -- falling to him, but not in His love, and thinking I can do it all (pride is under all this, which really disgusts me).

Any case, I'm trying to work through it all, but it's taking a long time. And I realized as part of this that I have kept trying to "do" my way out of doing... that hasn't worked. So now I'm focusing on resting... whatever that looks like.

I imagine that at some point I will have an amazing testimony to share about all this -- because I can see that it's a huge thing He's doing in my life. But right now, it seems really jumbled...

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

Like this:

Like Loading...

### You Will Reap A Harvest

17 Saturday Jan 2009

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [His mysterious ways](#), [ministry](#), [my spiritual journey](#), [Notes for Pastor's Wife](#), [stories from a pioneer church](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

I got to a point where I just felt like giving up. In all areas of my life. "It's all pointless," I cried. "I don't see any fruit in any area!" I was regretting my decision to follow God. His ways were too hard; I wanted that white picket fence that I sacrificed when I said "yes" to DC.

The next day, I received this email from a woman in our church:

*Hey Kelly! We haven't talked for a little bit, so I just wanted to pop in and say "hi!" I miss chatting with you. I have been so worried to have known you this past year and some odd months. You have really been instrumental in my growth with your loving guidance and direct advice. It has always helped me. You are a wonderful and amazing woman, wife, mother, and friend. I see all that you do and I am amazed.*

*If there is one thing I wanted to tell you, it is that I love you so much and I thank God every time I pray for you that He brought our paths to cross. I am a better person for having known you. My prayer for you is one of protection as a leader, and one that you will be sustained through the sowing season. I love you!*

*Galatians 6:9 That you will "not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time [you] will reap a harvest if [you] do not give up."*

It was JUST the word and encouragement I needed in that moment. How great is our God?!

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

Like this:

Like Loading...

### Adoption update

16 Friday Jan 2009

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [adoption](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

Adoption -- trying not to get discouraged while waiting. We're officially waiting right now, rather than scrambling to get paperwork in. Papers were submitted 11/17. Kids were being placed quickly (like 3-4 months), but now not so much (like 12-15 months). So sometime between this summer and spring 2010. So tough...

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

Like this:

Like Loading...

### Insight from a Friend

15 Thursday Jan 2009

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [His mysterious ways](#), [ministry](#), [my spiritual journey](#), [personal](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

Here is a note I received following our Servant Leader Conference last weekend. I have yet to blog on the weekend in order to give this note context, but I wanted to capture it while I remembered. Hey Kelly!

Was thinking about this weekend and what pastor Daniel prayed over you and thought I'd share.

You said that God was tearing down all of the things in your life that you use to identify yourself -- all those bastions of pride that have been lurking about...you really can't move on your own. Pastor Daniel said that you were going to have to take the roads less traveled now -- you're moving into uncharted territory...your usual fixes aren't going to work, and you don't know how to move ahead or where to go...maybe you're blind, deaf, and dumb at the moment because God needs you to really understand that you are totally dependent on Him -- even in areas that you normally excel -- it's ALL His...not just that...when you move on your own or in the familiar territory, you get some of the glory...now you can't move at all, and God is the only one who's going to make things happen...AND He's the only one getting the glory this time around. I don't know if this is true for you, but in my life, it's really easy to say "To God be the glory" and "I'll go wherever I'm told to go"...but when push comes to shove, that's a WHOLE lot easier said than done. You are being humbled and brought to your knees in a very hard way -- God is the only stronghold of your life, and He alone will pull you through, and He alone will get the credit -- just like the Israelites in the desert!! You are being brought low so that God can raise you up, and He will be glorified in the raising...not you. That's powerful stuff.

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

Like this:

Like Loading...

### Focusing on Resting

12 Monday Jan 2009

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [my spiritual journey](#), [personal](#)

≈ [1 Comment](#)

Today is going really well! I'm focusing on just resting -- realizing I can't do it all and not pushing myself or expecting myself too. It's relaxing. Lots of people have asked "what's wrong with me?" But that I look bad or sad, but that...I don't look like my normal self. It occurred to me -- that's because I'm not stressed out! What a relief!

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

Like this:

Like Loading...

← Older posts

Search:

### Follow Blog

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 904 other followers

### Recent Posts

- [Being Blind and Carrying Car Keys](#)
- [More rhapsody...](#)
- [Another Open Letter to President Obama](#)
- [You Can't Make This Up](#)
- [Burton's Take on Birth Control](#)

### Archives

- [October 2013](#)
- [September 2013](#)
- [August 2013](#)
- [July 2013](#)
- [May 2013](#)
- [April 2013](#)
- [March 2013](#)
- [February 2013](#)
- [January 2013](#)
- [December 2012](#)
- [November 2012](#)
- [October 2012](#)
- [September 2012](#)
- [August 2012](#)
- [July 2012](#)
- [June 2012](#)
- [May 2012](#)
- [April 2012](#)
- [March 2012](#)
- [January 2012](#)
- [December 2011](#)
- [November 2011](#)
- [October 2011](#)
- [September 2011](#)
- [August 2011](#)
- [July 2011](#)
- [April 2011](#)
- [March 2011](#)
- [February 2011](#)
- [January 2011](#)
- [December 2010](#)
- [November 2010](#)
- [October 2010](#)
- [September 2010](#)
- [August 2010](#)
- [July 2010](#)
- [June 2010](#)
- [May 2010](#)
- [April 2010](#)
- [March 2010](#)
- [February 2010](#)
- [January 2010](#)
- [December 2009](#)
- [November 2009](#)
- [October 2009](#)
- [September 2009](#)
- [August 2009](#)
- [July 2009](#)
- [June 2009](#)
- [May 2009](#)
- [March 2009](#)
- [February 2009](#)
- [January 2009](#)
- [December 2008](#)
- [November 2008](#)
- [October 2008](#)
- [September 2008](#)
- [August 2008](#)
- [July 2008](#)
- [June 2008](#)
- [May 2008](#)
- [April 2008](#)
- [March 2008](#)
- [February 2008](#)
- [January 2008](#)
- [December 2007](#)
- [November 2007](#)
- [October 2007](#)
- [September 2007](#)
- [August 2007](#)
- [July 2007](#)
- [June 2007](#)
- [May 2007](#)
- [April 2007](#)
- [March 2007](#)
- [February 2007](#)
- [January 2007](#)

### Categories

Select Category

Blog at [WordPress.com](#) - [The Chateau Theme](#).

[Follow](#)

Follow "Kelly Tshibaka"

Get every new post delivered to your Inbox.

Join 904 other followers

Powered by [WordPress.com](#).

960 bloggers like this:



- [About](#)
- [Resources](#)
- [Speaking](#)

## Kelly Tshibaka

### ~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional



## Monthly Archives: November 2010

### God Loves a Cheerful Giver

27 Saturday Nov 2010

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [kid stories](#), [my spiritual journey](#), [raising kids](#), [spiritual truths](#)

~ [Leave a Comment](#)

Barton's room was a mess. A perpetual mess. Which isn't like her, generally. And whenever the kids' rooms become unwieldy with toy clutter, I figure they have too many toys to keep track of. Time to purge! So I asked her to clean up her room and as she did so, to make a pile of anything that she didn't want any more so we could give it to kids less fortunate than her.

So this morning I woke up to find her and Slah (she enlisted his help) smiling as they stood over a huge pile in the center of her room. In this pile were toys of days gone past, as well as brand new things she received last week! She had her least favorite things in there, right along with her most favorite things.

When I asked her WHAT SHE WAS THINKING (I contained my shock and disapproval, I think...), she said she wanted to give away the things she liked the most so poor kids could have things they really liked, too.

Then she declared, "Mama! I'm really crazy, aren't I? Love makes you do crazy things. That's what God says. He does crazy things for us because He loves us. And God loosens a cheerful giver. Look how happy I am!" Then she and Slah blushed their biggest, dimplest grins ever. Then she broke thoughtlessly into song, "Give, and it will come back to you. Good measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over!" "Mama? I think God's smiling down at them, right now. What do you think???"

I LOVE her heart. LOVE it. But I'm not there. I've taught her these things — I believe them. But I just don't think I can let her give away MY favorite things of hers. WOW. I am so convicted by how much of a giver she is, how much of God's heart she has, and how far I am from that.

Hello, Lukewarm heart. We gotta heat you up...

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### Exorcist's Warning on Twilight, Potter, and Other Dark "Entertainment"

22 Monday Nov 2010

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [spiritual truths](#)

~ [Leave a Comment](#)

Inside Catholic (<http://catholic.org/hd/fair/savv.php?d=37477>)

WASHINGTON, DC (Inside Catholic) — Having just read Rev. Thomas J. Euteneuer's new book, *Exorcism and the Church Militant*, one of the first things I asked him was whether he was afraid of demons. I shivered more than once reading through its short chapters, arranged as basic questions about the devil, demons, possession, and the rite of exorcism.

"Not at all," Father answered with a smile. "God has given me the grace to remain unafraid."

When I expressed my surprise, he explained, "Demons are basically handcuffed, and they know it."

Father Euteneuer does not speak as a theorist. Since 2003 he's had extensive experience ministering to those possessed by demons. His introduction to the demonic world happened when a family asked him for help for one of their members, and he eventually asked for permission to perform the rite of exorcism. He has been doing them ever since.

*Exorcism and the Church Militant* is intended, in part, as a warning to parents who allow their children to be desensitized to "the dark world" by books and films like the Harry Potter series and the vampire books of Stephanie Meyer. Father Euteneuer told me possession is almost always a result of someone getting involved in many sort of occult practices, such as witchcraft, Wicca, tarot cards, and Ouija boards.

"Harry Potter and these Twilight vampires glamorize the power of evil," Father Euteneuer explained, "and this has led to a loss of many, many cases of possession among young people." It may begin with a child or teenager simply "playing around" with the occult, but that seemingly harmless act is "opening a window" to possession.

Father Euteneuer emphasized this point, "Demons do not discriminate between intentions — no matter how innocent — and children lose the clear distinction between good and evil." What makes the occult so dangerous is the fact that it is based upon something real — the preternatural world of fallen angels, headed by Lucifer himself. Below him are the "choirs" of devils and demons who are a reverse mirror, in their fallen state, of the hierarchy of angels.

Yet, as Father Euteneuer made clear, this entire dark spiritual world "cannot operate without permission from human beings." He pointed out that the widely-seen film, *The Exorcism of Emily Rose*, based upon the actual case of *Anneliese Michel*, makes it seem like a possession can occur against a person's will.

Demonic play by the rules, as it were. He can only enter a person when invited, and they will leave when subjected through the rite of exorcism to the authority of the Church. "All demons understand authority," according to Father Euteneuer. He told me of a time he was with someone who was possessed — not intending to do an exorcism because permission had not yet been given — and the demon spoke to him saying, "The Church is not here."

Father Euteneuer reminded me that as fallen angels, demons are smarter than any human being. "The darkest demon is smarter than I am," he said. An exorcist must remain aware of the demon's ability to know everything about the person they are possessing, including family members, and those who may enter the room to cast them out.

One demon attempted to negotiate with Father Euteneuer, offering to help him with his Latin if he would let him stay put. That story prompted me to ask if demons had a sense of humor. "No," Euteneuer replied. "The demon was only trying to resist being cast out. They know what an exorcism is, what is going to happen to them."

Possession usually involves more than one demon. Father Euteneuer explained that when "one demon gets in it will help to create more invitations to other demons." The more powerful ones have biblical names, and he often runs into demons with the same name, as if they had a kind of demonic family name.

The possession of an individual person is a perverse imitation of the Incarnation. "They know they've lost the war in heaven, now they've come to earth and are doing all they can to exert their power and be an obstacle to heaven." That's why demons experience some form of pain when they are exorcised — Father Euteneuer said demons will often complain that "it burns." They have been deprived of the satisfaction of entering a body in imitation of the Word made flesh.

By the end of my interview with Father Euteneuer, I realized my initial question about being frightened of demons had betrayed my misunderstanding of the limits of demonic power. *Exorcism and the Church Militant* is a book that should provide guidance to many for years to come, especially for parents who need a reminder that the occult is not innocent entertainment.

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### Joseph's 1 Year Stats

18 Thursday Nov 2010

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [kid stories](#)

~ [Leave a Comment](#)

Joseph had his 1 year check-up. He's 21lbs (29%) and 29.25" (33%). We knew he was getting chunky, but to go from less than 0% to 30% in weight?! SO EXCITING!

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### My Gramma is Passing Away.

17 Wednesday Nov 2010

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [Notes for Pastor's Wife](#), [personal](#), [women's topics](#)

~ [1 Comment](#)

So I learned last night that my gramma — my last living grandparent — is about to pass away. She's a pioneer woman who moved out from our family's Oregon trail homestead, went to college, ran off with an exceptionally talented musician (my grandpa, who passed away this past March), and made it through life with a lot of grit and hardened determination.

There are so many things I admire about her, and so many memories I have of her. Like the time I hid behind her bed until she came out from the shower, jumped out, and scared her nearly to death. Oh boy did I get it!!

Any case, my WONDERFUL husband has apparently notified several people who care about me and has asked them to pray for me. I got a note from one of them, and it was so heart-warming and encouraging, both for the heart it conveyed, but also for the power in the verse she shared:

*My dearest Kelly,*  
*I am so sorry to hear the news of your grandmother. I will be praying for you and your family during this difficult time. Take comfort in knowing that the Lord is close to those whose hearts are breaking. He is always there for you... and you are surrounded by friends willing to help and support you through this time.*

*Please let me know if there is anything that I can do. If you need someone to listen... a shoulder to cry on... or if you just need a break — and a babysitter to watch the kids... please, call me.*

*PS, I read this and thought of you — and what you shared on Monday...*

*Psaln 33:20-22*

*We wait in hope for the LORD; He is our help and our shield. In Him our hearts rejoice, for we trust in His holy name. May Your unfailing love be with us, LORD, even as we put our hope in You.*

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### Tips for Counseling and Discipling Better

17 Wednesday Nov 2010

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [ministry](#), [my other day job](#), [recommendations](#)

~ [1 Comment](#)

I recently took interrogation and interview training as part of my other other job. And I learned some great tips that would apply well to the pastoring/discipling/counseling context. I'm not saying I interrogate the people I'm discipling...I'm just saying that getting information and listening carefully are skills that transcend both interrogation AND ministry. : D

- Take notes to create silent moments during the discussion. This allows more space for the person to talk.
- Ask behavior inducing questions. For example, in counseling someone who you suspect is addicted to something, pose a "hypothetical" such as "I'm working with a woman who has an addiction. How do you suggest I handle the situation?"
- Have a private environment for the discussion. Minimize distractions. Ensure there are no physical barriers — like a table or desk — between you.
- Invade their personal space if you need a break-through. In getting closer to a person, you escalate their anxiety, which in turn creates a need for "release" of the pressure, which can lead to confession, repentance, or truth. (Use sparingly!)
- Contractions = truth. So someone who says, "I didn't do it" is more likely telling the truth than someone who says, "I did not do it." Also, if they use a gesture such as nodding or shaking their head to respond to a question rather than verbalizing a response, then follow-up on that point. This indicates a place of sensitivity or shame.
- Get body language barriers down by modeling for them the body language you want to see. In other words, if you want them to uncross their legs and arms (closed, defensive signs), then I love you turn your legs and arms. \*Note: Pastors/Teachers should never cross their arms while pastoring/discipling someone! Stay 4-5 feet away to maximize openness, unless you need a breakthrough of some kind (see point above).
- People turn their body to the side if they perceive you as a threat or don't want to talk about a subject. Situate yourself to be squared off with the person to whom you're talking (shoulders reflect shoulders). Then watch to see when (if at all) they shift their shoulders to the side. That's a subject area that they don't want to discuss.

I think that these tips could be helpful especially when dealing with spiritual matters. Much of what we react to is occurring in us spiritually — we might not even be conscious of the fact that the grief of our childhood is too painful to discuss now. But in counseling, if I notice that someone turned to the side when I began to ask them about their childhood, then I know that there's something there that's a place of brokenness, hurt, or damage where I could bring healing and restoration.

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### God is with Us!

11 Thursday Nov 2010

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [His mysterious ways](#), [ministry](#), [Notes for Pastor's Wife](#), [spiritual truths](#)

~ [Leave a Comment](#)

*A family in our church has been praying for us this week (thank you, prayer warriors!!!). And this is the note we received from them — so encouraging. The tongue of a disciple can sustain the weary with just a word.*

I just wanted to let you know that we have been praying together for your family every day thus far this week. Here are some things that have come up in our prayers:

The image of angels being placed at the corners of your house, that your home would be a place of safety for your family amidst the storm. (*what a confirmation!*)

The reality that the enemy is a interested in confusion, and that our God is a God of order.

The idea that you are NOT alone—that there are other people who are fighting alongside, even when it doesn't feel like it.

We've been just praying a lot for strength, with a deep sense that the battle is not over. (*yeah, we've figured that out recently...*)

One more thing: We were talking last night about MYFF, and marveling at how oblivious we are in general to what you shared with us on Sunday. In an amazing sense I think it capitalizes on what you were saying at dinner the other night—that one of the church's commitments is to not gossip, even though it would be easy with a relatively small body. So I just wanted to affirm that I see that in the church, and I sense how that really limits discouragement, despair, and even conflict. Well done, MYFF!

Hope you are well. We will continue to pray for you guys this week.

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### We're Planting Trees (and it ain't easy)

11 Thursday Nov 2010

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [ministry](#), [Notes for Pastor's Wife](#), [stories from a pioneer church](#)

~ [Leave a Comment](#)

We received the note below during a time when I really felt overcome by discouragement and like, "what's the point?!!?!" and like the last 3 years have been a total failure. Really relating to Nehemiah — maybe this is pointless? But then knowing deep down it's not and that God said what He said and He hasn't changed. So getting this email RIGHT when we got it was such an encouragement to me. Here's what a leader in our church wrote:

*Niki and Kelly: I hope you're having a great time at Convention, and that God is filling you up to overflowing. As I mentioned, I often am deeply moved by music. In this case, it's a song by Andrew Peterson (one of my favorite Christian artists) that made me think of you two, and the mission to which God has called you through MYFF. It's all about planting trees. I'll have to actually play the music for you some time. Thanks for all you do for God's kingdom.*

PLANTING TREES

Words and Music by Andrew Peterson

Proverbs 22:6, Matthew 6:20

We chose the spot, we dug the hole

We laid the maples in the ground

To have and hold

As autumn falls to winter sleep

We pray that somehow in the spring

The roots grow deep

And many years from now

Long after we are gone

These trees will spread their branches out

And bless the dawn

He took a plane to Africa

He gathered up into his arms

An orphan son

So many years from now

Long after we are gone

This tree will spread its branches out

And bless the dawn

So sit down and write that letter

Sign up and join the fight

Sink in to all that matters

Step out into the light

Let go of all that's passing

Lift up the least of these

Lean into something lasting:

Planting trees

She rises up as morning breaks

She moves among these rooms alone

Before we wake

And her heart is so full; it overflows

She waters us with love and the children grow

So many years from now

Long after we are gone

These trees will spread their branches out

And bless the dawn

These trees will spread their branches out

And bless someone

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### Who is Lord?

08 Monday Nov 2010

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [Bible study](#), [my spiritual journey](#), [spiritual truths](#)

~ [Leave a Comment](#)

*For we do not preach ourselves but Christ Jesus as Lord, and ourselves as bond-servants for Jesus' sake. 2 Cor. 4:5*

This verse could have been written without "we do not preach ourselves but" and just have read, "For we preach Christ Jesus as Lord..." But the emphasis here is on our identity *viz* a *viz* Jesus. In other words, we are not Lord, we are bond-servants. Jesus is Lord and He has paid the price that renders us bond-servants to one another. Moreover, we're not bond-servants in a vacuum, but bond-servants of those we "preach to" (disciples, those we pastor, other believers, etc.).

Who am I preaching as Lord? Sometimes me and not Jesus. It looks like this: I have to make my dreams happen. I have to provide for myself. I have to protect myself. It boils down to "me", which at its essence is pride. Ick.

Who do I believe I am? What do I "preach" (say, think) about my purpose, mission, and identity? To the extent my answer does not conform to "your bond-servant for Jesus' sake", then I'm out of the will of the Gospel.

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### Serving and Discipling

06 Monday Nov 2010

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [Bible study](#), [discipling](#), [spiritual truths](#)

~ [Leave a Comment](#)

*For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many. Mark 10:45*

But the emphasis here is on our identity *viz* a *viz* Jesus. In other words, we are not Lord, we are bond-servants. Jesus is Lord and He has paid the price that renders us bond-servants to one another. Moreover, we're not bond-servants in a vacuum, but bond-servants of those we "preach to" (disciples, those we pastor, other believers, etc.).

In contrast, I am often more eager to be served than to serve. But Jesus's purpose was to serve. He didn't do it reluctantly or because no one else was doing it and it needed to get done; He did it joyfully and intentionally. It was His mission. It was one of His love languages.

Serving is tied to giving your life for others. If a man has no greater love than to give his life for his friends, and according to Mark 10:45, serving is tied to giving your life, then great love for someone is evident by (or even developed through?) serving them.

One of the points of discipling is to travel in the point of death on behalf of those you're discipling. That was Jesus' model, and if we're going to follow in His steps, it's gotta be our model, too. This verse gives us a strategy in how to do that — serve those you're discipling.

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### Prince Caspian

05 Friday Nov 2010

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [kid stories](#), [raising kids](#)

~ [1 Comment](#)

The kids and I read *Chronicles of Narnia: Prince Caspian* over the past couple months. They really loved the *Lion*, the *Witch*, and the *Wardrobe*, so we moved on to the next book. (Never mind that *Batton's* kindergarten teacher told me that the *Chronicles of Narnia* were way too advanced for 5 year olds...). I promised them that after we finished *Prince Caspian*, they could watch the *Narnia: Prince Caspian* movie.

Well, that time came this past weekend. We broke out the popcorn and twizzlers and dove into the theatrical adaptation of the book. I was impressed by the kids' ability to connect scenes in the movie to parts of the book, as well as their ability to identify scenes that were not part of the book, or elements of the book that were omitted from the movie.

So *Voyage of the Dawn Treader* is coming out this Christmas. And I'm really looking forward to taking them to see it! (Niki is hoping to read them the whole book before then... We'll see!)

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### Follow Blog

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 904 other followers

### Recent Posts

- [Being Blind and Carrying Car Keys](#)
- [More...relationships...](#)
- [Another Open Letter to President Obama](#)
- [You Can't Make This Up](#)
- [Batton's Take on Birth Control](#)

### Archives

• [October 2013](#)

• [September 2013](#)

• [August 2013](#)

• [June 2013](#)

• [May 2013](#)

• [April 2013](#)

• [March 2013](#)

• [February 2013](#)

• [December 2012](#)

• [November 2012](#)

• [October 2012](#)

• [September 2012](#)

• [August 2012](#)

• [July 2012](#)

• [June 2012](#)

• [May 2012](#)

• [April 2012](#)

• [March 2012](#)

• [January 2012](#)

• [December 2011](#)

• [November 2011](#)

• [October 2011](#)

• [September 2011](#)

• [August 2011](#)





%d bloggers like this:

- [About](#)
- [Resources](#)
- [Speaking](#)

## Kelly Tshibaka

### ~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional

Search:



## Monthly Archives: July 2007

### [Review of "House Church Networks" book](#)

19 Thursday Jul 2007

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [Church](#)

≈ [1 Comment](#)

*House Church Networks: A church for a new generation*, a book by Larry Kreider, seeks to introduce readers to a new church model that has been emerging over the past several years. Sometimes Kreider's approach is informative; other times it is persuasive. Regardless, it contains several points that resonated with me and are directly applicable to the Church today.

For example, Kreider notes that "young people" or "Generation X" are looking for a church experience that will motivate them to enthusiastically participate (he defines "young people" as 18-35, in 2004 — so that would include up to early-40-something today). He also notes that these people are looking for a church *family* and dependable, meaningful relationships. And that they are unwilling to finance huge buildings, advertising campaigns, or a leaky church roof because all of that seems simply irrelevant. He includes this question: "Can you justify putting \$20-30 million dollars into building a church just so that you can add another 1,000 people to a church that already has a couple of thousand people?" Gen-Xers would say no because they believe the "church" is people, not a place where people meet.

In these respects, Kreider is spot on. We are looking for authentic relationship, purpose, and impact.

Kreider also argues that the mega churches (1,000+ members) and community churches (up to 1,000 members) do not meet the needs of many Gen-Xers. In contrast, Kreider argues that "house church networks" effectively meet the needs of Gen-Xers. A house church (small fellowship of believers) that births and spiritually parents several other house churches becomes a house church network. While each house church is an independent, fully functioning church, they benefit from a common leader (who shepherds the entire network of churches) and larger community. Kreider likens house churches to a "new wineskin" for new wine (a new generation) — if we try to fit the new generation (wine) into the old church structures (wineskin), then the wineskin will burst.

Sometimes referred to as "New Testament" churches by other authors, Kreider argues that house churches' primary focus should be on discipleship and outreach rather than fellowship. I agree — fellowship without discipleship is empty. He also notes that a healthy house church focuses on loving the Lord, loving each other, reaching the lost, and loving the rest of the body of Christ. I agree with that, too.

The concern I have with Kreider's argument is similar to others that I've observed in writings on house churches: it is the unstated presumption that this "new wineskin" that Gen-X is seeking looks a certain way or is structured a certain way. While Kreider doesn't state this explicitly, he uses several pages to argue *for networks* of house churches; for house churches to focus on *multiplying* into other house churches; and for house churches to meet in a specific location — a *house*.

However, I believe many kinds of churches can effectively meet the needs of Gen-Xers. Kreider stated that a healthy house church focuses on loving the Lord, loving each other, reaching the lost, and loving the rest of the body of Christ. But if that sentence was re-written to omit the word "house," it would be universally applicable to all churches — from mega churches to house churches. Shouldn't all churches emphasize these values? I believe mega churches can meet the needs of Gen-Xers as much as house churches can, if they emphasize the values that are important to those people. These churches could meet in restaurants, at workplaces, or in hotel meeting rooms.

Perhaps a better term for the concept Kreider is advocating is "church unplugged" (with "unplugged" connoting "authentic" or "simple" versus "not connected to the larger Church"). That's how I think of our church — it's church unplugged. We might meet in a house for now, but our identity and values are not tied to our location. We may someday move to a community center, or a movie theater, or a building of our own. We might be small now, but we may someday be much larger. Our location, structure, and size may change, but our values won't. We will focus on authentic relationship, purpose, and impact.

I also disagree that "church unplugged" must focus on multiplying other churches. While that's our heart, it might not be the heart of other "new wineskin" churches. But that doesn't make them illegit. Moreover, I disagree that house churches appeal to everyone in Gen-X or are appealing only to people in Gen X. Some people in Gen X are looking for something more traditional in church (many of our friends have recently converted to Catholicism), and some people in older and younger generations are looking for something new. Similarly, I disagree that house churches have to create house church networks. While I like the concept and find it appealing, that won't work for every church or every pastor.

That isn't to say, though, that house churches should not be tied to the larger Church. I strongly agree with Kreider that every house church must be intimately connected to the larger Church — whether that's through networks, partnerships with other churches in the area (which Kreider advocates), or affiliation with and authority from a denomination (which is our situation). Without such relationships, churches run a great risk of falling into heresy, pride, and exclusivity. A pastor cannot have authority without being under authority.

I believe the aspects of Kreider's arguments with which I have concerns were unintentional on his part. In short, the message about these "new wineskin" churches that should be taken from Kreider's book was stated by Kreider himself: *It is not the structure itself that is significant, but the relationships occurring within it.*

#### Share this:

- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

#### Like this:

Like Loading...

## [Keep On Keeping On](#)

18 Wednesday Jul 2007

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [His mysterious ways](#), [stories from a pioneer church](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

*Faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see.* Heb. 11:1

When Niki and I were considering starting a church, the Lord revealed to us that He was going to be doing a great work, that we were invited to be a part of it, but regardless of our decision, He was going to accomplish His purpose. We decided we wanted to be a part of it. And even though it's sometimes extremely discouraging, I'm glad we made that choice.

A friend recently shared a true story that reminded me of the truth behind the word the Lord gave us, and that encouraged me to persevere through the hard times of ministry:

Believing that the Lord called him to start a church in North Carolina, a man packed up his family and moved across the United States to answer the call. About 20 years later, the church had grown substantially, was thriving, and had built and moved into a building of its own.

A man of obvious spiritual distinction started coming to the church. Every Sunday, he would sit in the service and weep, but nobody knew why. After about 6 months of this, he told a church elder that around 20 years ago, he too believed the Lord had called him to start a church in this particular town. With great enthusiasm, he had moved, started holding services, and even had an architect draft plans for a building based on a vision the Lord had given the man. However, the man encountered several obstacles early on, and shortly after the church began, he closed its doors.

Crying, he asked the church elder, "Would like to see the architectural plans I had drafted?" As he unrolled the plans, it was clear that the building the Lord had showed the man 20 years ago was the very building that the church had eventually built.

This story is a good reminder that we are part of something far greater than ourselves, that all we are called to do is be faithful (not successful, or anything else), and to keep on keeping on, even when it seems impossible.

#### Share this:

- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

#### Like this:

Like Loading...

## [Fixin'](#)

18 Wednesday Jul 2007

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [deep thoughts](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

God is fixin' to fix you.  
But if you try to fix the fix He's fixed for you,  
He'll fix another fix to fix you with  
Until you let the fix He's fixed for you  
Fix you

#### Share this:

- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

#### Like this:

Like Loading...

## [My Fingernails](#)

17 Tuesday Jul 2007

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [my spiritual journey](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

I wear evidence of my spiritual well being on my fingernails. If I'm doing great spiritually, my nails are in great shape. If I'm dealing with a lot of spiritual issues, like lack-of-faith, disobedience, or discouragement, my nails bear the brunt of it.

I've noticed that the condition of my nails has very little to do with worldly circumstances or stress. Even when I've been stressed out, my nails have remained in good shape if I'm doing well spiritually (God can handle my stress). But if I'm not doing well spiritually, even the slightest bump in life will result in a bloody cuticle.

The only good thing about it is that fellow believers can easily hold me accountable because they can readily see how I'm doing.

Something else I've noticed is that biting my nails is — in itself — a spiritual issue in my life. Aside from the fact that God does not condone self mutilation, I have found that whenever I'm picking at my nails, I stop thinking about God, worshipping, or otherwise operating spiritually. Even if I'm in the middle of singing a song I know by heart, I will suddenly stop singing it as I start to examine my nails. There's a complete disconnect — as soon as I focus on my nails, I stop focusing on the Lord.

Right now, all my nails are starting to show evidence of growing back. One is doing really well, one is not. The other eight are finally starting to show white tips again. And that's a direct correlation to some decisions Niki and I have been faced with over the past 3 weeks (more on that later).

I aspire to reach the point in my spiritual walk where, no matter what I'm going through, my nails are long, healthy, and beautiful.

#### Share this:

- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

#### Like this:

Like Loading...

## [Gonna pee awll over myself](#)

13 Friday Jul 2007

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [kid stories](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

This morning I was racing Button out the door to daycare. She resisted me, started walking to her room, and with a look of concern, said, "No, mama! I can't. I'm gonna pee awll over myself!" I tried to usher her into the potty, but she insisted she didn't need to go potty. She kept emphasizing that she was going to pee all over herself if we left right then, and she couldn't understand why I didn't get it.

After a little bit more back and forth with her, I finally realized that I had forgotten to put on panties under her dress!

#### Share this:

- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

#### Like this:

Like Loading...

## [Button's Sense of Humor](#)

11 Wednesday Jul 2007

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [kid stories](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

It's fitting to write something about Button on her THIRD birthday! Wow, time flies.

This morning, Button, Niki, and I were frantically searching for a gold bracelet that Button received from Nana for her birthday. She had worn it to bed a couple nights ago, but stashed it somewhere the next morning, and neither Niki nor I had seen it since.

When we asked her where she put the bracelet, she said, "In my pack-pack to keep it safe" (which is "Button" for "backpack"). She's pretty good at remembering these things, and she has quite a habit of collecting "stuffs" in her "pack-pack."

I found the backpack and dumped *all* of its contents out on her bed. It's amazing what that kid can fit into a little bag... We rummaged through it all, but the bracelet was not to be found.

So I asked her again, a little more urgently, "Button, where is your bracelet???"

She looked at the pile on her bed, raised her eyebrows, and said, "Well, it's not in my pack-pack!"

#### Share this:

- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

#### Like this:

Like Loading...

Search:

## Follow Blog

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 904 other followers

## Recent Posts

- [Being Blind and Carrying Car Keys](#)
- [More relationship...](#)
- [Another Open Letter to President Obama](#)
- [You Can't Make This Up](#)
- [Button's Take on Birth Control](#)

## Archives

- [October 2013](#)
- [September 2013](#)
- [August 2013](#)
- [June 2013](#)
- [May 2013](#)
- [April 2013](#)
- [March 2013](#)
- [February 2013](#)
- [January 2013](#)
- [December 2012](#)
- [November 2012](#)
- [October 2012](#)
- [September 2012](#)
- [August 2012](#)
- [July 2012](#)
- [June 2012](#)
- [May 2012](#)
- [April 2012](#)
- [March 2012](#)
- [January 2012](#)
- [December 2011](#)
- [November 2011](#)
- [October 2011](#)
- [September 2011](#)
- [August 2011](#)
- [July 2011](#)
- [April 2011](#)
- [March 2011](#)
- [February 2011](#)
- [January 2011](#)
- [December 2010](#)
- [November 2010](#)
- [October 2010](#)
- [September 2010](#)
- [August 2010](#)
- [July 2010](#)
- [June 2010](#)
- [May 2010](#)
- [April 2010](#)
- [March 2010](#)
- [February 2010](#)
- [January 2010](#)
- [December 2009](#)
- [November 2009](#)
- [October 2009](#)
- [September 2009](#)
- [August 2009](#)
- [July 2009](#)
- [June 2009](#)
- [May 2009](#)
- [March 2009](#)
- [February 2009](#)
- [January 2009](#)
- [December 2008](#)
- [November 2008](#)
- [October 2008](#)
- [September 2008](#)
- [August 2008](#)
- [July 2008](#)
- [June 2008](#)
- [May 2008](#)
- [April 2008](#)
- [March 2008](#)
- [February 2008](#)
- [January 2008](#)
- [December 2007](#)
- [November 2007](#)
- [October 2007](#)
- [September 2007](#)
- [August 2007](#)
- [July 2007](#)
- [June 2007](#)
- [May 2007](#)
- [April 2007](#)
- [March 2007](#)
- [February 2007](#)
- [January 2007](#)

## Categories

Select Category

[Blog at WordPress.com](#). [The Chateau Theme](#).

[Follow](#)

## Follow "Kelly Tshibaka"

Get every new post delivered to your Inbox.

Join 904 other followers

Powered by [WordPress.com](#)

%d bloggers like this:





- [About](#)
- [Resources](#)
- [Speaking](#)

## Kelly Tshibaka

### ~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional

Search:



## Monthly Archives: *September 2013*

### You Can't Make This Up

25 *Wednesday* Sep 2013

Posted by [kushibaka](#) in [Uncategorized](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

On the radio this morning, and they weren't joking:

"If the government shuts down next week, all of DC will shut down, too. Trash, transportation, you name it. That's because the city of DC is funded by Congress. This news update is brought to you by Big Apple Circus."

You got that right...

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

Like this:

Like Loading...

### Button's Take on Birth Control

16 *Monday* Sep 2013

Posted by [kushibaka](#) in [Uncategorized](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

Denali: Daddy, I can't believe Mommy used to take birth control because she didn't want to have me yet. Why wouldn't she want me? I mean, I'm terrific! I'm amazing! I just don't get it!

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

Like this:

Like Loading...

### Time Together

04 *Wednesday* Sep 2013

Posted by [kushibaka](#) in [marriage](#), [ministry](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

We are getting away together. We are sans kids, staying in a swanky hotel, not too far from home. The point isn't how far away...the point is that we are alone together, not working, just celebrating and enjoying life and each other.

It's taken us awhile to figure out what we need to continue operating as the best version of ourselves. These times together are essential for both of us!



Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

Like this:

Like Loading...

Search:

## Follow Blog

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 904 other followers

## Recent Posts

- [Being Blind and Carrying Car Keys](#)
- [More relationships...](#)
- [Another Open Letter to President Obama](#)
- [You Can't Make This Up](#)
- [Button's Take on Birth Control](#)

## Archives

- [October 2013](#)
- [September 2013](#)
- [August 2013](#)
- [June 2013](#)
- [May 2013](#)
- [April 2013](#)
- [March 2013](#)
- [February 2013](#)
- [January 2013](#)
- [December 2012](#)
- [November 2012](#)
- [October 2012](#)
- [September 2012](#)
- [August 2012](#)
- [July 2012](#)
- [June 2012](#)
- [May 2012](#)
- [April 2012](#)
- [March 2012](#)
- [January 2012](#)
- [December 2011](#)
- [November 2011](#)
- [October 2011](#)
- [September 2011](#)
- [August 2011](#)
- [July 2011](#)
- [April 2011](#)
- [March 2011](#)
- [February 2011](#)
- [January 2011](#)
- [December 2010](#)
- [November 2010](#)
- [October 2010](#)
- [September 2010](#)
- [August 2010](#)
- [July 2010](#)
- [June 2010](#)
- [May 2010](#)
- [April 2010](#)
- [March 2010](#)
- [February 2010](#)
- [January 2010](#)
- [December 2009](#)
- [November 2009](#)
- [October 2009](#)
- [September 2009](#)
- [August 2009](#)
- [July 2009](#)
- [June 2009](#)
- [May 2009](#)
- [March 2009](#)
- [February 2009](#)
- [January 2009](#)
- [December 2008](#)
- [November 2008](#)
- [October 2008](#)
- [September 2008](#)
- [August 2008](#)
- [July 2008](#)
- [June 2008](#)
- [May 2008](#)
- [April 2008](#)
- [March 2008](#)
- [February 2008](#)
- [January 2008](#)
- [December 2007](#)
- [November 2007](#)
- [October 2007](#)
- [September 2007](#)
- [August 2007](#)
- [July 2007](#)
- [June 2007](#)
- [May 2007](#)
- [April 2007](#)
- [March 2007](#)
- [February 2007](#)
- [January 2007](#)

## Categories

Select Category

[Blog at WordPress.com.](#) [The Chateau Theme.](#)

[Follow](#)

## Follow "Kelly Tshibaka"

Get every new post delivered to your Inbox.

Join 904 other followers

[Powered by WordPress.com](#)

%d bloggers like this:



- About
- Resources
- Speaking

## Kelly Tshibaka

### ~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional

Search:



## Monthly Archives: August 2012

[Quote](#)

### On Pioneering

31 Friday Aug 2012

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [Uncategorized](#)

≈ [1 Comment](#)

**Tags**  
[Ministry, Pioneering](#)

"We are open to stability; we just don't feel called to it." ~Sonja Kelly

**Share this:**

- [Facebook](#)
- [Twitter](#)
- [LinkedIn](#)
- [More](#)

**Like this:**

Like Loading...

### How to Know if You're a Servant of Christ

23 Thursday Aug 2012

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [Uncategorized](#)

≈ [1 Comment](#)

"Are they servants of Christ? ...I more so..." (2 Cor. 11:23) Paul goes on to list 23 examples of how he is a **servant of Christ**.

The thing is, the examples Paul lists aren't the examples I imagined. When I think of how I or others are servants of Christ, I think of things like ministry positions ("I pastor a church"). Or ministry accomplishments ("35 people got saved last week"). Or callings and assignments ("I make disciples"; "I'm a prophet."). Of course, attendance metrics also seem to be a valid example ("Our church has over a thousand people.")

But Paul doesn't say anything like that. In fact, what he says is downright alarming. If these examples he lists are the metrics and standards for whether we are **servants of Christ**, we need to take a hard look in the mirror. Are we actually experiencing any of these things? *Are we willing to?*

When we do experience these things, are we quick to recognize that it's because of Christ, or do we instead wonder if we've been disappointed and been abandoned by Christ? Oftentimes when I've experienced something on this list, I haven't connected it directly to me being a servant of Christ. Especially if it didn't happen as a direct result of me serving Christ, it's not intuitive that I'm experiencing it because I am a servant of Christ. And yet, Paul also doesn't qualify these things to say they happened only when they were serving Christ. But presumably, these things happened only after he became a believer and started serving Christ. Takeaway for me: When you are serving Christ, you cannot escape persecution, hardship, or suffering. And it might happen even for things/s times when you're not directly involved in serving Christ.

So, here's Paul's list. I've presented it in questionnaire form because that's how I read it: "Kelly, have you...?"

**Paul's Indicators for a Servant of Christ**

Answer the following questions to determine how you rate as a "servant of Christ" compared to Paul, the former persecutor turned apostle of the early Church. Paul answered "yes" to all of these.

1. Have you labored for Christ?
2. Have you been imprisoned?
3. Have you been beaten countless times?
4. Have you often been in danger of death?
5. Have you received government-inflicted corporal punishment (in Paul's case, lashings)?
6. Have you been beaten with rods (separate from #3 above)?
7. Have you been stoned by a mob (and left for dead)?
8. Have you been shipwrecked multiple times?
9. Have you been stranded in the ocean for 24 hours or more?
10. Have you been on frequent journeys?
11. Have you faced dangers from rivers?
12. Have you faced dangers from robbers?
13. Have you faced dangers from your own people (your "countrymen")?
14. Have you faced dangers from foreigners – ("Gentiles")?
15. Have you faced dangers in the city?
16. Have you faced dangers in the wilderness?
17. Have you faced dangers on the sea (separate from shipwrecks and being stranded)?
18. Have you faced dangers from false believers?
19. Have you been in labor and hardship?
20. Have you had many sleepless nights (no sleep, whatsoever)?
21. Have you been in hunger and thirst, often without food at all?
22. Have you been in cold and exposure?
23. Have you been concerned daily for all the churches, internalizing the challenges the people of God face?

**Share this:**

- [Facebook](#)
- [Twitter](#)
- [LinkedIn](#)
- [More](#)

**Like this:**

Like Loading...

### Button's Vision of Jesus

20 Monday Aug 2012

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [His mysterious ways](#), [kid stories](#), [raising kids](#), [spiritual truths](#)

≈ [1 Comment](#)

It was just another Sunday morning. Get up, get hostile', eat breakfast, get out the door to church. Try to do it without any crises, messes, or bad attitudes. No reason to think this day was any different – or more special – than the other days.

The kids were supposed to be focused on eating, Finnish breakfast quickly. Don't dilly dally. We don't have time to waste and we can't be late. But Button started talking. She's a talker... And more than talking, she wanted to tell me a story.

"Mama, I want to tell you about something. Something that happened last night."

Oh, where is this going? Am I going to hear about a non-stop dream now? Oh, shut her down or shut down the tantrum of impatience in my mind that is starting to brew...?

"Last night I didn't want to go to bed, remember? Daddy had just gotten upset with me and I didn't want to go to bed thinking he was upset with me. I was crying."

Yes, I remember, Button. You got rightly disciplined and you overreacted to it because you were tired. WHERE is this going? I feigned patience...

"Well, I really needed a hug just to know everything was okay. Daddy heard me and he came upstairs and held me and hugged me. I felt a little better when he left, but I was still sad. So I prayed and told Jesus, 'Jesus, I'm sad and I need a hug!'"

"Well then, Jesus came into my room and was sitting on my bed with me. I was all of a sudden on his lap and He was hugging me. I felt so much better. And he hugged me until I stopped crying. Well, actually, I fell asleep so fast and I don't even remember it!"

"But I do remember one other thing. There were two angels that came with Jesus. They were tall, almost as tall as my room. And they stood spread apart over by the windows across the room, like they were standing guard. They were bright like light."

"I don't know if I saw them all with my own eyes or with my mind's eye, but I know I saw them and I know they were there."

Let me get this straight... while I was downstairs watching a run-of-the-mill crime t.v. show, JESUS was upstairs in her bedroom, comforting her like the loving Father He is! HOW DID I MISS THIS? And, yeah, that's KINDA important! Why did you wait til mid-breakfast to tell me?

Oh, that she would never forget the comfort and love that GOD ALMIGHTY has for her. That of ALL the people in the world, her tears meant so much to Him that He appeared from heaven just to bring her comfort. Wow, that's a lot of love. You are loved greatly, Button. Oh, so greatly.

**Share this:**

- [Facebook](#)
- [Twitter](#)
- [LinkedIn](#)
- [More](#)

**Like this:**

Like Loading...

### Pride? Nah, That's Just Confidence: Button's Hero

16 Thursday Aug 2012

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [funny](#), [kid stories](#), [raising kids](#), [spiritual truths](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

At the Renaissance Weekend (a secular conference), both Button and Siah were on a panel where kids discussed heroes—who theirs were, why, and what makes a hero. The kids planned in advance. Siah picked King David and Jesus. Button picked Moses and Joshua. Button even went so far as to start scripting out what she was going to say. But she wasn't going to have that much time, so I advised that she just speak from her heart.

Famous last words.

In a room full of adults, the panel of kids went around and briefly shared who their heroes were—firefighters, soldiers, parents, siblings, Larry the Cable Guy...then Siah said Jesus and King David (I was so proud of him)...then it was Button's turn.

She stood up. "Well, basically, my hero is ME!"

Niki and I were shocked.

"See, I have a lot of confidence. I do what's right. I do things like tell other kids about Jesus at school when I know I could get in trouble. But it doesn't matter because what I'm doing is right. And..."

Niki's head is hung and covered by his hands, both mortified and proud at the same time.

Button doesn't miss a beat: "And... Daddy, please get your head out of your hands... Like I was saying. If you have confidence like me, then you can be a hero, too! For all you grown ups out there, I have a question for you. If you're not a hero already, then why aren't you? What could you be doing that you're not doing? Think about THAT." And she sits down with authority.

The discussion continued. And you gotta be sure she had something to say on every discussion point. Particularly the one about bullies. The basic idea was, "Is it okay to make a bully cry if you're doing it while defending or protecting a friend of yours?" All the kids who spoke reached the conclusion that if you make the bully cry, you're no better than the bully. You're basically bullying the bully, and that's wrong, too.

Button stood up again (all the other kids who spoke had stayed sitting). "You guys just don't get it, do you?! If the bully cries, that's HIS problem. He needs to own that. He needs to get over it. It's time to make a bully cry if you're doing it for the right reason. Maybe he'll finally stop bullying people!"

As we walked out of the room, amused and surprised all at the same time, Niki commented to me, "That's YOUR daughter. That's YOU in an unrefined state! You've done a fantastic job instilling a sense of self-confidence. Now we get to focus on humility!"

I was so impressed with her for so many reasons. One of them being her worldview development—that in the face of overwhelming opinion to the contrary, she was able to express a principled approach to dealing with bullies ("right" is not based on the effect on the other person, but your motivation and intent in confronting them). Also, her understanding that SO MUCH of what makes a hero is their confidence. What you believe about yourself matters. It determines your courage, your faith, and your boldness to do what's right even if it comes at a cost. And I love that she sees herself as a hero. Because she is.

Way to recognize it, girl. Hold onto that. Even when peer pressure continues to mount through your teenage years, hold onto that.

*Do not throw away your confidence for it will be richly rewarded.* Heb. 10:35

**Share this:**

- [Facebook](#)
- [Twitter](#)
- [LinkedIn](#)
- [More](#)

**Like this:**

Like Loading...

### Hello world!

15 Wednesday Aug 2012

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [Uncategorized](#)

≈ [1 Comment](#)

Welcome to [WordPress.com](#)! This is your very first post. Click the Edit link to modify or delete it, or [start a new post](#). If you like, use this post to tell readers why you started this blog and what you plan to do with it.

Happy blogging!

**Share this:**

- [Facebook](#)
- [Twitter](#)
- [LinkedIn](#)
- [More](#)

**Like this:**

Like Loading...

### How to Become a Man

14 Tuesday Aug 2012

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [kid stories](#), [raising kids](#), [spiritual truths](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

I have been trying to instill in Siah what it takes to go from being a boy to being a man. I've explained that lots of boys get older but never become men – there's a lot of "grown up" boys walking around out there, but there's something better for him. He's going to be a man. And he's going to help other boys, no matter how old they are.

But that requires 1) understanding what it takes to change from being a boy to being a man, and 2) practicing those things. It's hard work.

For example, Siah is a little boy. He's got a lot of confidence. He's got a lot of courage. He's got a lot of faith. He's got a lot of love. He's got a lot of strength. He's got a lot of gifts. He's got a lot of talents. He's got a lot of abilities. He's got a lot of skills. He's got a lot of knowledge. He's got a lot of wisdom. He's got a lot of understanding. He's got a lot of insight. He's got a lot of intuition. He's got a lot of feeling. He's got a lot of emotion. He's got a lot of passion. He's got a lot of energy. He's got a lot of power. He's got a lot of influence. He's got a lot of authority. He's got a lot of respect. He's got a lot of honor. He's got a lot of glory. He's got a lot of fame. He's got a lot of wealth. He's got a lot of success. He's got a lot of happiness. He's got a lot of joy. He's got a lot of peace. He's got a lot of love. He's got a lot of life. He's got a lot of hope. He's got a lot of faith. He's got a lot of courage. He's got a lot of strength. He's got a lot of gifts. He's got a lot of talents. He's got a lot of abilities. He's got a lot of skills. He's got a lot of knowledge. He's got a lot of wisdom. He's got a lot of understanding. He's got a lot of insight. He's got a lot of intuition. He's got a lot of feeling. He's got a lot of emotion. He's got a lot of passion. He's got a lot of energy. He's got a lot of power. He's got a lot of influence. He's got a lot of authority. He's got a lot of respect. He's got a lot of honor. He's got a lot of glory. He's got a lot of fame. He's got a lot of wealth. He's got a lot of success. He's got a lot of happiness. He's got a lot of joy. He's got a lot of peace. He's got a lot of love. He's got a lot of life. He's got a lot of hope. He's got a lot of faith. He's got a lot of courage. He's got a lot of strength. He's got a lot of gifts. He's got a lot of talents. He's got a lot of abilities. He's got a lot of skills. He's got a lot of knowledge. He's got a lot of wisdom. He's got a lot of understanding. He's got a lot of insight. He's got a lot of intuition. He's got a lot of feeling. He's got a lot of emotion. He's got a lot of passion. He's got a lot of energy. He's got a lot of power. He's got a lot of influence. He's got a lot of authority. He's got a lot of respect. He's got a lot of honor. He's got a lot of glory. He's got a lot of fame. He's got a lot of wealth. He's got a lot of success. He's got a lot of happiness. He's got a lot of joy. He's got a lot of peace. He's got a lot of love. He's got a lot of life. He's got a lot of hope. He's got a lot of faith. He's got a lot of courage. He's got a lot of strength. He's got a lot of gifts. He's got a lot of talents. He's got a lot of abilities. He's got a lot of skills. He's got a lot of knowledge. He's got a lot of wisdom. He's got a lot of understanding. He's got a lot of insight. He's got a lot of intuition. He's got a lot of feeling. He's got a lot of emotion. He's got a lot of passion. He's got a lot of energy. He's got a lot of power. He's got a lot of influence. He's got a lot of authority. He's got a lot of respect. He's got a lot of honor. He's got a lot of glory. He's got a lot of fame. He's got a lot of wealth. He's got a lot of success. He's got a lot of happiness. He's got a lot of joy. He's got a lot of peace. He's got a lot of love. He's got a lot of life. He's got a lot of hope. He's got a lot of faith. He's got a lot of courage. He's got a lot of strength. He's got a lot of gifts. He's got a lot of talents. He's got a lot of abilities. He's got a lot of skills. He's got a lot of knowledge. He's got a lot of wisdom. He's got a lot of understanding. He's got a lot of insight. He's got a lot of intuition. He's got a lot of feeling. He's got a lot of emotion. He's got a lot of passion. He's got a lot of energy. He's got a lot of power. He's got a lot of influence. He's got a lot of authority. He's got a lot of respect. He's got a lot of honor. He's got a lot of glory. He's got a lot of fame. He's got a lot of wealth. He's got a lot of success. He's got a lot of happiness. He's got a lot of joy. He's got a lot of peace. He's got a lot of love. He's got a lot of life. He's got a lot of hope. He's got a lot of faith. He's got a lot of courage. He's got a lot of strength. He's got a lot of gifts. He's got a lot of talents. He's got a lot of abilities. He's got a lot of skills. He's got a lot of knowledge. He's got a lot of wisdom. He's got a lot of understanding. He's got a lot of insight. He's got a lot of intuition. He's got a lot of feeling. He's got a lot of emotion. He's got a lot of passion. He's got a lot of energy. He's got a lot of power. He's got a lot of influence. He's got a lot of authority. He's got a lot of respect. He's got a lot of honor. He's got a lot of glory. He's got a lot of fame. He's got a lot of wealth. He's got a lot of success. He's got a lot of happiness. He's got a lot of joy. He's got a lot of peace. He's got a lot of love. He's got a lot of life. He's got a lot of hope. He's got a lot of faith. He's got a lot of courage. He's got a lot of strength. He's got a lot of gifts. He's got a lot of talents. He's got a lot of abilities. He's got a lot of skills. He's got a lot of knowledge. He's got a lot of wisdom. He's got a lot of understanding. He's got a lot of insight. He's got a lot of intuition. He's got a lot of feeling. He's got a lot of emotion. He's got a lot of passion. He's got a lot of energy. He's got a lot of power. He's got a lot of influence. He's got a lot of authority. He's got a lot of respect. He's got a lot of honor. He's got a lot of glory. He's got a lot of fame. He's got a lot of wealth. He's got a lot of success. He's got a lot of happiness. He's got a lot of joy. He's got a lot of peace. He's got a lot of love. He's got a lot of life. He's got a lot of hope. He's got a lot of faith. He's got a lot of courage. He's got a lot of strength. He's got a lot of gifts. He's got a lot of talents. He's got a lot of abilities. He's got a lot of skills. He's got a lot of knowledge. He's got a lot of wisdom. He's got a lot of understanding. He's got a lot of insight. He's got a lot of intuition. He's got a lot of feeling. He's got a lot of emotion. He's got a lot of passion. He's got a lot of energy. He's got a lot of power. He's got a lot of influence. He's got a lot of authority. He's got a lot of respect. He's got a lot of honor. He's got a lot of glory. He's got a lot of fame. He's got a lot of wealth. He's got a lot of success. He's got a lot of happiness. He's got a lot of joy. He's got a lot of peace. He's got a lot of love. He's got a lot of life. He's got a lot of hope. He's got a lot of faith. He's got a lot of courage. He's got a lot of strength. He's got a lot of gifts. He's got a lot of talents. He's got a lot of abilities. He's got a lot of skills. He's got a lot of knowledge. He's got a lot of wisdom. He's got a lot of understanding. He's got a lot of insight. He's got a lot of intuition. He's got a lot of feeling. He's got a lot of emotion. He's got a lot of passion. He's got a lot of energy. He's got a lot of power. He's got a lot of influence. He's got a lot of authority. He's got a lot of respect. He's got a lot of honor. He's got a lot of glory. He's got a lot of fame. He's got a lot of wealth. He's got a lot of success. He's got a lot of happiness. He's got a lot of joy. He's got a lot of peace. He's got a lot of love. He's got a lot of life. He's got a lot of hope. He's got a lot of faith. He's got a lot of courage. He's got a lot of strength. He's got a lot of gifts. He's got a lot of talents. He's got a lot of abilities. He's got a lot of skills. He's got a lot of knowledge. He's got a lot of wisdom. He's got a lot of understanding. He's got a lot of insight. He's got a lot of intuition. He's got a lot of feeling. He's got a lot of emotion. He's got a lot of passion. He's got a lot of energy. He's got a lot of power. He's got a lot of influence. He's got a lot of authority. He's got a lot of respect. He's got a lot of honor. He's got a lot of glory. He's got a lot of fame. He's got a lot of wealth. He's got a lot of success. He's got a lot of happiness. He's got a lot of joy. He's got a lot of peace. He's got a lot of love. He's got a lot of life. He's got a lot of hope. He's got a lot of faith. He's got a lot of courage. He's got a lot of strength. He's got a lot of gifts. He's got a lot of talents. He's got a lot of abilities. He's got a lot of skills. He's got a lot of knowledge. He's got a lot of wisdom. He's got a lot of understanding. He's got a lot of insight. He's got a lot of intuition. He's got a lot of feeling. He's got a lot of emotion. He's got a lot of passion. He's got a lot of energy. He's got a lot of power. He's got a lot of influence. He's got a lot of authority. He's got a lot of respect. He's got a lot of honor. He's got a lot of glory. He's got a lot of fame. He's got a lot of wealth. He's got a lot of success. He's got a lot of happiness. He's got a lot of joy. He's got a lot of peace. He's got a lot of love. He's got a lot of life. He's got a lot of hope. He's got a lot of faith. He's got a lot of courage. He's got a lot of strength. He's got a lot of gifts. He's got a lot of talents. He's got a lot of abilities. He's got a lot of skills. He's got a lot of knowledge. He's got a lot of wisdom. He's got a lot of understanding. He's got a lot of insight. He's got a lot of intuition. He's got a lot of feeling. He's got a lot of emotion. He's got a lot of passion. He's got a lot of energy. He's got a lot of power. He's got a lot of influence. He's got a lot of authority. He's got a lot of respect. He's got a lot of honor. He's got a lot of glory. He's got a lot of fame. He's got a lot of wealth. He's got a lot of success. He's got a lot of happiness. He's got a lot of joy. He's got a lot of peace. He's got a lot of love. He's got a lot of life. He's got a lot of hope. He's got a lot of faith. He's got a lot of courage. He's got a lot of strength. He's got a lot of gifts. He's got a lot of talents. He's got a lot of abilities. He's got a lot of skills. He's got a lot of knowledge. He's got a lot of wisdom. He's got a lot of understanding. He's got a lot of insight. He's got a lot of intuition. He's got a lot of feeling. He's got a lot of emotion. He's got a lot of passion. He's got a lot of energy. He's got a lot of power. He's got a lot of influence. He's got a lot of authority. He's got a lot of respect. He's got a lot of honor. He's got a lot of glory. He's got a lot of fame. He's got a lot of wealth. He's got a lot of success. He's got a lot of happiness. He's got a lot of joy. He's got a lot of peace. He's got a lot of love. He's got a lot of life. He's got a lot of hope. He's got a lot of faith. He's got a lot of courage. He's got a lot of strength. He's got a lot of gifts. He's got a lot of talents. He's got a lot of abilities. He's got a lot of skills. He's got a lot of knowledge. He's got a lot of wisdom. He's got a lot of understanding. He's got a lot of insight. He's got a lot of intuition. He's got a lot of feeling. He's got a lot of emotion. He's got a lot of passion. He's got a lot of energy. He's got a lot of power. He's got a lot of influence. He's got a lot of authority. He's got a lot of respect. He's got a lot of honor. He's got a lot of glory. He's got a lot of fame. He's got a lot of wealth. He's got a lot of success. He's got a lot of happiness. He's got a lot of joy. He's got a lot of peace. He's got a lot of love. He's got a lot of life. He's got a lot of hope. He's got a lot of faith. He's got a lot of courage. He's got a lot of strength. He's got a lot of gifts. He's got a lot of talents. He's got a lot of abilities. He's got a lot of skills. He's got a lot of knowledge. He's got a lot of wisdom. He's got a lot of understanding. He's got a lot of insight. He's got a lot of intuition. He's got a lot of feeling. He's got a lot of emotion. He's got a lot of passion. He's got a lot of energy. He's got a lot of power. He's got a lot of influence. He's got a lot of authority. He's got a lot of respect. He's got a lot of honor. He's got a lot of glory. He's got a lot of fame. He's got a lot of wealth. He's got a lot of success. He's got a lot of happiness. He's got a lot of joy. He's got a lot of peace. He's got a lot of love. He's got a lot of life. He's got a lot of hope. He's got a lot of faith. He's got a lot of courage. He's got a lot of strength. He's got a lot of gifts. He's got a lot of talents. He's got a lot of abilities. He's got a lot of skills. He's got a lot of knowledge. He's got a lot of wisdom. He's got a lot of understanding. He's got a lot of insight. He's got a lot of intuition. He's got a lot of feeling. He's got a lot of emotion. He's got a lot of passion. He's got a lot of energy. He's got a lot of power. He's got a lot of influence. He's got a lot of authority. He's got a lot of respect. He's got a lot of honor. He's got a lot of glory. He's got a lot of fame. He's got a lot of wealth. He's got a lot of success. He's got a lot of happiness. He's got a lot of joy. He's got a lot of peace. He's got a lot of love. He's got a lot of life. He's got a lot of hope. He's got a lot of faith. He's got a lot of courage. He's got a lot of strength. He's got a lot of gifts. He's got a lot of talents. He's got a lot of abilities. He's got a lot of skills. He's got a lot of knowledge. He's got a lot of wisdom. He's got a lot of understanding. He's got a lot of insight. He's got a lot of intuition. He's got a lot of feeling. He's got a lot of emotion. He's got a lot of passion. He's got a lot of energy. He's got a lot of power. He's got a lot of influence. He's got a lot of authority. He's got a lot of respect. He's got a lot of honor. He's got a lot of glory. He's got a lot of fame. He's got a lot of wealth. He's got a lot of success. He's got a lot of happiness. He's got a lot of joy. He's got a lot of peace. He's got a lot of love. He's got a lot of life. He's got a lot of hope. He's got a lot of faith. He's got a lot of courage. He's got a lot of strength. He's got a lot of gifts. He's got a lot of talents. He's got a lot of abilities. He's got a lot of skills. He's got a lot of knowledge. He's got a lot of wisdom. He's got a lot of understanding. He's got a lot of insight. He's got a lot of intuition. He's got a lot of feeling. He's got a lot of emotion. He's got a lot of passion. He's got a lot of energy. He's got a lot of power. He's got a lot of influence. He's got a lot of authority. He's got a lot of respect. He's got a lot of honor. He's got a lot of glory. He's got a lot of fame. He's got a lot of wealth. He's got a lot of success. He's got a lot of happiness. He's got a lot of joy. He's got a lot of peace. He's got a lot of love. He's got a lot of life. He's got a lot of hope. He's got a lot of faith. He's got a lot of courage. He's got a lot of strength. He's got a lot of gifts. He's got a lot of talents. He's got a lot of abilities. He's got a lot of skills. He's got a lot of knowledge. He's got a lot of wisdom. He's got a lot of understanding. He's got a lot of insight. He's got a lot of intuition. He's got a lot of feeling. He's got a lot of emotion. He's got a lot of passion. He's got a lot of energy. He's got a lot of power. He's got a lot of influence. He's got a lot of authority. He's got a lot of respect. He's got a lot of honor. He's got a lot of glory. He's got a lot of fame. He's got a lot of wealth. He's got a lot of success. He's got a lot of happiness. He's got a lot of joy. He's got a lot of peace. He's got a lot of love. He's got a lot of life. He's got a lot of hope. He's got a lot of faith. He's got a lot of courage. He's got a lot of strength. He's got a lot of gifts. He's got a lot of talents. He's got a lot of abilities. He's got a lot of skills. He's got a lot of knowledge. He's got a lot of wisdom. He's got a lot of understanding. He's got a lot of insight. He's got a lot of intuition. He's got a lot of feeling. He's got a lot of emotion. He's got a lot of passion. He's got a lot of energy. He's got a lot of power. He's got a lot of influence. He's got a lot of authority. He's got a lot of respect. He's got a lot of honor. He's got a lot of glory. He's got a lot of fame. He's got a lot of wealth. He's got a lot of success. He's got a lot of happiness. He's got a lot of joy. He's got a lot of peace. He's got a lot of love. He's got a lot of life. He's got a lot of hope. He's got a lot of faith. He's got a lot of courage. He's got a lot of strength. He's got a lot of gifts. He's got a lot of talents. He's got a lot of abilities. He's got a lot of skills. He's got a lot of knowledge. He's got a lot of wisdom. He's got a lot of understanding. He's got a lot of insight. He's got a lot of intuition. He's got a lot of feeling. He's got a lot of emotion. He's got a lot of passion. He's got a lot of energy. He's got a lot of power. He's got a lot of influence. He's got a lot of authority. He's got a lot of respect. He's got a lot of honor. He's got a lot of glory. He's got a lot of fame. He's got a lot of wealth. He's got a lot of success. He's got a lot of happiness. He's got a lot of joy. He's got a lot of peace. He's got a lot of love. He's got a lot of life. He's got a lot of hope. He's got a lot of faith. He's got a lot of courage. He's got a lot of strength. He's got a lot of gifts. He's got a lot of talents. He's got a lot of abilities. He's got a lot of skills. He's got a lot of knowledge. He's got a lot of wisdom. He's got a lot of understanding. He's got a lot of insight. He's got a lot of intuition. He's got a lot of feeling. He's got a lot of emotion. He's got a lot of passion. He's got a lot of energy. He's got a lot of power. He's got a lot of influence. He's got a lot of authority. He's got a lot of respect. He's got a lot of honor. He's got a lot of glory. He's got a lot of fame. He's got a lot of wealth. He's got a lot of success. He's got a lot of happiness. He's got a lot of joy. He's got a lot of peace. He's got a lot of love. He's got a lot of life. He's got a lot of hope. He's got a lot of faith. He's got a lot of courage. He's got a lot of strength. He's got a lot of gifts. He's got a lot of talents. He's got a lot of abilities. He's got a lot of skills. He's got a lot of knowledge. He's got a lot of wisdom. He's got a lot of understanding. He's got a lot of insight. He's got a lot of intuition. He's got a lot of feeling. He's got a lot of emotion. He's got a lot of passion. He's got a lot of energy. He's got a lot of power. He's got a lot of influence. He's got a lot of authority. He's got a lot of respect. He's got a lot of honor. He's got a lot of glory. He's got a lot of fame. He's got a lot of wealth. He's got a lot of success. He's got a lot of happiness. He's got a lot of joy. He's got a lot of peace. He's got a lot of love. He's got a lot of life. He's got a lot of hope. He's got a lot of faith. He's got a lot of courage. He's got a lot of strength. He's got a lot of gifts. He's got a lot of talents. He's got a lot of abilities. He's got a lot of skills. He's got a lot of knowledge. He's got a lot of wisdom. He's got a lot of understanding. He's got a lot of insight. He's got a lot of intuition. He's got a lot of feeling. He's got a lot of emotion. He's got a lot of passion. He's got a lot of energy. He's got a lot of power. He's got a lot of influence. He's got a lot of authority. He's got a lot of respect. He's got a lot of honor. He's got a lot of glory. He's got a lot of fame. He's got a lot of wealth. He's got a lot of success. He's got a lot of happiness. He's got a lot of joy. He's got a lot of peace. He's got a lot of love. He's got a lot of life. He's got a lot of hope. He's got a lot of faith. He's got a lot of courage. He's got a lot of strength. He's got a lot of gifts. He's got a lot of talents. He's got a lot of abilities. He's got a lot of skills. He's got a lot of knowledge. He's got a lot of wisdom. He's got a lot of understanding. He's got a lot of insight. He's got a lot of intuition. He's got a lot of feeling. He's got a lot of emotion. He's got a lot of passion. He's got a lot of energy. He's got a lot of power. He's got a lot of influence. He's got a lot of authority. He's got a lot of respect. He's got a lot of honor. He's got a lot of glory. He's got a lot of fame. He's got a lot of wealth. He's got a lot of success. He's got a lot of happiness. He's got a lot of joy. He's got a lot of peace. He's got a lot of love. He's got a lot of life. He's got a lot of hope. He's got a lot of faith. He's got a lot of courage. He's got a lot of strength. He's got a lot of gifts. He's got a lot of talents. He's got a lot of abilities. He's got a lot of skills. He's got a lot of knowledge. He's got a lot of wisdom. He's got a lot of understanding. He's got a lot of insight. He's got a lot of intuition. He's got a lot of feeling. He's got a lot of emotion. He's got a lot of passion. He's got a lot of energy.

- [About](#)
- [Resources](#)
- [Speaking](#)

## Kelly Tshibaka

### ~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional

Search:



## Monthly Archives: *June 2009*

### [Persistence in Prayer](#)

**04** *Thursday* Jun 2009

Posted by [kushibaka](#) in [my spiritual journey](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

This past week I was especially busy – too busy, in fact, to return a dear friend’s phone calls. I wanted to call her back. But I truly couldn’t. Several pressing crises demanded my attention and I just was not able to call her.

But that didn’t stop her from calling. Every day I got a phone message of her checking in and reminding me to call when I had a chance. She never exhibited any frustration or disappointment with me. I never felt pressured to call her or manipulated – like somehow the status of our friendship depended on my responsiveness (or lack thereof).

When I finally had the opportunity to call her back, I was eagerly looking forward to it! And as I picked up the phone to call her, I remembered the parable Jesus told of the persistent widow – you know, where she keeps coming to the unjust judge and because of her persistence he finally relents and gives her justice. Well, Jesus told the story so that we would always pray and not give up (He’s so much more faithful than an unjust judge).

What I realized is that my friend, in faithfully reaching out to me, modeled exactly the heart that Jesus tells us to have in our prayers to Him — not complaining, not disgruntled, not apathetic, but in faith, believing that He will answer the prayers (and wants to!). I’ll tell you what else — It got me praying bigger and more consistently, too!

#### Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

#### Like this:

Like Loading...

### [Nice Nails](#)

**01** *Monday* Jun 2009

Posted by [kushibaka](#) in [kid stories](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

Slah was sitting on my lap and noticed my nails, which had been done a few days before. He looked up at me with huge eyes, “Mama! Those are so boooootiful!!!”

Awwww.... I love that little boy!

#### Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

#### Like this:

Like Loading...

### [Waiting for Baby](#)

**01** *Monday* Jun 2009

Posted by [kushibaka](#) in [adoption](#), [kid stories](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

Last night, in the middle of her prayers, Button interjected the following:

“And Looord, please bless our baby in Efiopla. We’ve been waiting for her [Button has always insisted that it will be a girl] for like, 100 YEARS!!! Can you please send her already??? Thank you! In Jesus’ name, Amen.”

That’s a prayer I agree with!

#### Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

#### Like this:

Like Loading...

Search:

### Follow Blog

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 904 other followers

### Recent Posts

- [Being Blind and Carrying Car Keys](#)
- [More relationships...](#)
- [Another Open Letter to President Obama](#)
- [You Can’t Make This Up](#)
- [Button’s Take on Birth Control](#)

### Archives

- [October 2013](#)
- [September 2013](#)
- [August 2013](#)
- [June 2013](#)
- [May 2013](#)
- [April 2013](#)
- [March 2013](#)
- [February 2013](#)
- [January 2013](#)
- [December 2012](#)
- [November 2012](#)
- [October 2012](#)
- [September 2012](#)
- [August 2012](#)
- [July 2012](#)
- [June 2012](#)
- [May 2012](#)
- [April 2012](#)
- [March 2012](#)
- [January 2012](#)
- [December 2011](#)
- [November 2011](#)
- [October 2011](#)
- [September 2011](#)
- [August 2011](#)
- [July 2011](#)
- [April 2011](#)
- [March 2011](#)
- [February 2011](#)
- [January 2011](#)
- [December 2010](#)
- [November 2010](#)
- [October 2010](#)
- [September 2010](#)
- [August 2010](#)
- [July 2010](#)
- [June 2010](#)
- [May 2010](#)
- [April 2010](#)
- [March 2010](#)
- [February 2010](#)
- [January 2010](#)
- [December 2009](#)
- [November 2009](#)
- [October 2009](#)
- [September 2009](#)
- [August 2009](#)
- [July 2009](#)
- [June 2009](#)
- [May 2009](#)
- [March 2009](#)
- [February 2009](#)
- [January 2009](#)
- [December 2008](#)
- [November 2008](#)
- [October 2008](#)
- [September 2008](#)
- [August 2008](#)
- [July 2008](#)
- [June 2008](#)
- [May 2008](#)
- [April 2008](#)
- [March 2008](#)
- [February 2008](#)
- [January 2008](#)
- [December 2007](#)
- [November 2007](#)
- [October 2007](#)
- [September 2007](#)
- [August 2007](#)
- [July 2007](#)
- [June 2007](#)
- [May 2007](#)
- [April 2007](#)
- [March 2007](#)
- [February 2007](#)
- [January 2007](#)

### Categories

Select Category

[Blog at WordPress.com](#). [The Chateau Theme](#).

[Follow](#)

#### Follow “Kelly Tshibaka”

Get every new post delivered to your Inbox.

Join 904 other followers

Powered by [WordPress.com](#)

%d bloggers like this:

## Kelly Tshibaka

### ~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional

Search:



## Monthly Archives: *January 2013*

### [Top 10 Responses to Those Who Criticize My Parenting](#)

26 Saturday Jan 2013

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [Uncategorized](#)

[~ Leave a Comment](#)

You step one minute into Mommy world and you can't help but get criticized. From the lactation consultant at birth to the mommy cliques on the playground, you can't escape it.

I've gotten my fair share of criticism, from loved ones to perfect strangers. It's pretty remarkable. Like: "You're harsh," "Your decisions are selfish—you do what's best for you, not your kids," "You're depriving your kids of key opportunities at a critical time in their development," "You run a dictatorship..." "You need more freedom!" "You aren't teaching them enough..." or the right things, "Your kids are misbehaved/out of control/difficult in some way..." "You shouldn't discipline them the way you do..." "If you loved your kids, you'd..." (something different than what I'm doing)," "You should've have a job; you should be at home with your kids," and, with respect to me still working—"Why did you get pregnant if you weren't ready to be a mom?"

I've got several responses to people who offer such criticism... can I say at the outset that it's wise to at least listen to it? I've received several helpful tips and even changed some of my parenting skills simply by asking follow-up questions when someone levels criticism. If there's something constructive there, then *why* not use it? It just makes me a better parent.

But when there's nothing constructive there...well, here are some responses to these endless arrows of criticism. Some of them I've used, and some of them I've just thought...

1. I am rubber you are glue, what bounces off me sticks to you... In other words, WHATEVER.
2. Oh finally! I've been waiting for someone to catch me! They never should've let me leave the hospital with these things!
3. One of my top objectives is that I \*like\* my kids, not just love them. And I \*really\* like them. Which is more than what you—or anyone, really—can say about \*your\* kids...
4. I also wish some of our life situations were different. It's not ideal, but this is the best of the possible alternatives for right now.
5. It's a good thing that it's okay to make mistakes in our family.
6. I love them too much not to discipline them. (And once they stop doing stupid things, I'll stop disciplining them!)
7. You might not like it, but I've got a 20 year plan here. Let's revisit this in 20 years and see how it worked out.
8. You're depriving your kids of key opportunities at a critical time in their development.
9. Yeah? You should see them when they're on sugar highs...
10. I am rubber you are glue, what bounces off me sticks to you... In other words, WHATEVER.

Share this:

- [Facebook](#)
- [Twitter](#)
- [LinkedIn](#)
- [Pinterest](#)
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### [When, Exactly, Did We Get Old?](#)

24 Thursday Jan 2013

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [Uncategorized](#)

[~ Leave a Comment](#)

Isn't it weird? How you wake up one day and realize that at some point, you got old? You start saying things your parents said, like listening to the Top 40 songs and thinking, "They call this music these days?" Well, here's my \*younger\* sister's "I'm old!" revelation. I totally — inappropriately — LOL'd in my cubicle at work...

Hubby and I were talking movies and he said he still wants to see the new Red Dawn movie, we weren't sure if it was on video yet... I randomly asked the young waitress if she knew if the new Red Dawn movie was out on video... [deer in headlights]..."never heard of it"...

I'm like... "Remake from the 80's? Patrick Swayze fighting the Russians in Montana?... [my list goes up]... WOLVERINES!!..."?.....[totally left me hanging]

...she blinks... blinks again.... "Breaking Dawn is still in theaters?"...

I've never felt SO OLD in my life...

Share this:

- [Facebook](#)
- [Twitter](#)
- [LinkedIn](#)
- [Pinterest](#)
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### [Mice Trying To Break In!](#)

17 Thursday Jan 2013

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [Uncategorized](#)

[~ Leave a Comment](#)

Thoughts from a dear friend who is a mom of two, including a newborn:

We had a few mice try to move in a few months ago. It was a very unsettling few days (cringe). But it \*made\* us focus on the issue at hand and then the overall cleanliness of our kitchen.

I've been under attack more intensely lately, and "unsettling" doesn't begin to describe it. But every once and a while, the flare ups reveal the state of your heart and the dust on a neglected spiritual walk.

I've been under attack more intensely lately, and "unsettling" doesn't begin to describe it. But every once and a while, the flare ups reveal the state of your heart and the dust on a neglected spiritual walk.

Share this:

- [Facebook](#)
- [Twitter](#)
- [LinkedIn](#)
- [Pinterest](#)
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### [Sermon Feedback from My Daughter](#)

15 Tuesday Jan 2013

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [ministry, raising kids, stories from a pioneer church](#)

[~ 5 Comments](#)

Tags

[Pastoring](#)

"Mom, don't you think it's weird that when you preach everyone just stares at you blankly?"

Her advice on how I can improve:

1. Don't start with "Fun Lady", being all funny and happy
2. Start your sermon
3. When everyone's bored, give them a break so they can make fun of you—but don't worry about it.
4. Then have them sit down again. Continue the sermon. When they get bored again, don't give them a break this time. Instead, dump all the "fun" on them at that point. If you pour out all the fun in the beginning, then they're bored the rest of the sermon. So save it for the end.

Thanks, Button...

Share this:

- [Facebook](#)
- [Twitter](#)
- [LinkedIn](#)
- [Pinterest](#)
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### [Lessons from Game Shows: The Last Shall Be First...](#)

13 Sunday Jan 2013

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [Uncategorized](#)

[~ Leave a Comment](#)

Thoughts from a dear friend who is a working mom of two kids:

Gameshows... 'Been watching the Price Is Right and Let's Make a Deal (Gulley pleasures of daytime TV). Sometimes we can get upset that the other guy got to play on the show first. Whether they got called first by the host, or you guessed the wrong price, or even if the other guy beat you to it (bid one dollar above yours)... we can frown or curse the other guy's success... we can blame the directors of the game or the host.

But sometimes being the third guy called. Instead of the first, means you could be offered to play for the car... And if they get the car, and you only get the Washer/Dryer set....that's more than you had walking in. What if you never get called to "Come on Down?"...the game just wouldn't be the same for the players or the viewers...without a cheering audience.

Share this:

- [Facebook](#)
- [Twitter](#)
- [LinkedIn](#)
- [Pinterest](#)
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### [Lessons from Parenting: God's Provision and Feeding Babies](#)

11 Friday Jan 2013

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [Uncategorized](#)

[~ Leave a Comment](#)

Here are some thoughts from a dear friend who is a working mom of a 2-year-old and newborn:

We whine, we cry... we cry out..."HOW LONG, OH LORD!?"...and he's got the bottle right there...right next to our mouths...if we'd just calm down long enough to notice that He is already providing, and she's going to get the food in our mouth sooner (on learning so much about how God sees us... and how frustrating it must be for when we're just calmed down, just be still and know that He is God, He IS providing, He IS good.... and smile back at him. Those are the best moments as a parent, and those are the best moments as a child. I need to give God more of those moments.

Share this:

- [Facebook](#)
- [Twitter](#)
- [LinkedIn](#)
- [Pinterest](#)
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### [Reflections on Mary, Christmas, and Church Size](#)

08 Tuesday Jan 2013

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [Uncategorized](#)

[~ Leave a Comment](#)

Deb sent some reflections to me in response to some of my blog posts. I thought what she shared was really profound, so I'm passing it along. Love that girl. So glad God saw fit to have us be roommates freshman year! With love, from Deb:

You know, I was also challenged by your application that those "blessed and highly favored" by the Lord go through a hard time, like Mary and Joseph in the Christmas story. I had never thought about it from that angle, but it was really interesting... God convicted me that, had I been in Mary's shoes, nine months pregnant, and the Obama administration decreed that we return to my hometown in another state to be counted for a census, how frustrated I would be. Then upon arriving and finding myself giving birth in a stable, I would have certainly invoked my "blessed and highly favored" entitlement clause [do you people not KNOW that the angel Gabriel himself appeared to me????]. What misery I could spread around to anyone close enough to listen. And yet Mary seemed content.

One other thing struck me from this particular blog post... I love the recurring theme through the Bible that God is not a respecter of persons (Acts 10:34). In the Christmas story, He chose poor shepherd boys (that no one could feel beneath them), and Wise Men (that no one could feel above them) to reveal Jesus' birth. I love how He seems to move the same way in yours and Nick's life... creating two incredibly gifted Harvard-educated lawyers to be pastors (to relate to the rich and powerful), yet bringing you guys through these crazy trials like not having a place to live (in order to be accessible to the weak and lowly)...

And I also loved your post on the mega-church thing... I clearly remember asking you that question about how big your church was. To share an outsider's perspective... the question in my mind that I was trying to answer was, "If I attended anything like your church, would I have a personal relationship with Nick and Kelly or the pastors?" Because if there were 500 people, then probably not. And I loved your answer, about your mission statement... it's not EVERY church's goal to mentor, equip and send out spiritual giants! Just another take on the "success" metric...

Share this:

- [Facebook](#)
- [Twitter](#)
- [LinkedIn](#)
- [Pinterest](#)
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### [Jenifer](#)

02 Wednesday Jan 2013

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [Uncategorized](#)

[~ Leave a Comment](#)

Lately I find myself chewing on some things Jen has told me. She has this way of dropping conviction bombs — the kind that make you fundamentally change who you are as a person — with such grace that it takes, oh I don't know, like a year?, before you realize that you've changed as a person because of one thing she said a long long time ago.

It was Jen who told me that she doesn't get a gift for someone unless she wants to and it's nice. Otherwise, there's no point in getting it. She's going to spend the money, she's going to select it. It was Jen, and she's going to wrap it beautifully, or she's not giving one. Many people don't get gifts, but the ones who do — mmm. A Jenifer gift is always a nice gift. I know because I got one from her after Justice was born. It made me totally rethink how I give gifts. I felt so loved and so special. I want to give like Jen gives.

It also was Jen who told me that she used to be concerned with what people thought of her — when she entered a room, said something, or flobbered up. I can relate. I spend a lot of emotional energy worrying about that — worrying that I've given people a reason to reject me. Wondering what they think of me. But Jen said that after something the Lord showed her, she started to be concerned about what others thought the thought of them. In other words, instead of wondering whether people were rejecting her, she concerned herself with whether people felt accepted by her. It really freed her up to love bigger. I want to think about others the way she does. I want to love like Jen.

Share this:

- [Facebook](#)
- [Twitter](#)
- [LinkedIn](#)
- [Pinterest](#)
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### [2012 Blog Highlights—Caught Me By Surprise](#)

01 Tuesday Jan 2013

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [Uncategorized](#)

[~ 2 Comments](#)

So WordPress prepared an annual report for my blog, showing, among other things, what blog posts you faithful blog readers liked the most. I was SHOCKED. The most read blog post BY FAR was the one about seeing my ex-boyfriend. ??? And here I thought people read this blog for spiritual growth...

The other top ones were the Top 10 Memories of our house, my thoughts on the Connecticut shootings, and our talk with Button about sex.

No, really, I can't figure this out. I'd love to get your feedback — why was that blog post so interesting? And why these blog posts and not others? Any comments you can give would be appreciated — it'd help me know better what topics you're interested in reading about.



Share this:

- [Facebook](#)
- [Twitter](#)
- [LinkedIn](#)
- [Pinterest](#)
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

Search:

### [Follow Blog](#)

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 904 other followers

### [Recent Posts](#)

- [Being Blatant and Carrying Car Keys](#)
- [More relationship...](#)
- [Another Open Letter to President Obama](#)
- [You Can't Make This Up](#)
- [Button's Take on Birth Control](#)

### [Archives](#)

- [October 2013](#)
- [September 2013](#)
- [August 2013](#)
- [June 2013](#)
- [May 2013](#)
- [April 2013](#)
- [March 2013](#)
- [February 2013](#)
- [January 2013](#)
- [December 2012](#)
- [November 2012](#)
- [October 2012](#)
- [September 2012](#)
- [August 2012](#)
- [July 2012](#)
- [June 2012](#)
- [May 2012](#)
- [April 2012](#)
- [March 2012](#)
- [January 2012](#)
- [December 2011](#)
- [November 2011](#)
- [October 2011](#)
- [September 2011](#)
- [August 2011](#)
- [July 2011](#)
- [April 2011](#)
- [March 2011](#)
- [February 2011](#)
- [January 2011](#)
- [December 2010](#)
- [November 2010](#)
- [October 2010](#)
- [September 2010](#)
- [August 2010](#)
- [July 2010](#)
- [June 2010](#)
- [May 2010](#)
- [April 2010](#)
- [March 2010](#)
- [February 2010](#)
- [January 2010](#)
- [December 2009](#)
- [November 2009](#)
- [October 2009](#)
- [September 2009](#)
- [August 2009](#)
- [July 2009](#)
- [June 2009](#)
- [May 2009](#)
- [March 2009](#)
- [February 2009](#)
- [January 2009](#)
- [December 2008](#)
- [November 2008](#)
- [October 2008](#)
- [September 2008](#)
- [August 2008](#)
- [July 2008](#)
- [June 2008](#)
- [May 2008](#)
- [April 2008](#)
- [March 2008](#)
- [February 2008](#)
- [January 2008](#)
- [December 2007](#)
- [November 2007](#)
- [October 2007](#)
- [September 2007](#)
- [August 2007](#)
- [July 2007](#)
- [June 2007](#)
- [May 2007](#)
- [April 2007](#)
- [March 2007](#)
- [February 2007](#)
- [January 2007](#)

### [Categories](#)

Select Category

[Blog at WordPress.com](#). [The Chateau Theme](#).

[Follow](#)

### [Follow "Kelly Tshibaka"](#)

Get every new post delivered to your Inbox.

Join 904 other followers

Powered by [WordPress.com](#)

966 bloggers like this:



- [About](#)
- [Resources](#)
- [Speaking](#)

## Kelly Tshibaka

### ~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional

Search:



## Monthly Archives: *December 2009*

### Collecting Recent Words Received

17 *Thursday* Dec 2009

Posted by [kushibaka](#) in [Uncategorized](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

We recently have received a series of “random” words, but I’m betting they’re not so random. So I’m going to catalog them here so I don’t lose them and so I can meditate on them...

“You are my King and my God, who decrees victories for Jacob.” Psalm 44:4 (TNIV) New King James says, “ You are my King, O God; Command victories for Jacob.” A decree is an official order with the power of legislation issued by a ruler or other person or a group with authority. A decree is a divine edict, the will or purpose of God, interpreted through events and circumstances. Now comes the good part: As I was thinking about you and this verse, I became very grateful and confident about God’s love for you. Your King and your God is decreeing and legislating victories, successes, triumphing circumstances for you, your kids, your congregation.

\*\*\*\*\*

I have a couple of scriptures I want to share with you guys that god gave me. They are James 1-2,3 and it says My brethen count it all joy when you fall into various trials knowing the testing of your faith produces patience, and the other scripture is Hebrew 11-2 For by it the elders obtain great testomny. I feel like god is saying no matter what you guys are going through, have faith and count it all joy you will over come and through all you trials you will have a great testimony. I just want to let you guys know I will continue to pray for you guys.

\*\*\*\*\*

Don’t give the devil an inch of hard won ground, I don’t know why I am saying this, but God knows.

\*\*\*\*\*

I am praying for you this morning. God is with you! He calls you by name.

#### Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

#### Like this:

Like Loading...

## Spiritual Genealogy

09 *Wednesday* Dec 2009

Posted by [kushibaka](#) in [Bible study, ministry, my spiritual journey](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

I’ve always wondered about my spiritual genealogy – who am I a spiritual descendant of? In other words who told someone about Jesus who told someone about Jesus who – on through generations of people – told me about Jesus? Am I a descendant of Peter, the Rock? John the Beloved? Doubting Thomas?

Of course, there’s no way to know this side of Heaven, but I read something interesting in Romans recently that got me thinking:

“Gret Andronicus and Junia, my kinsmen and my fellow prisoners, who are outstanding among the apostles, who also were in Christ before me.” Romans 16:7

Junia, also written as Junias, is a feminine noun in Latin meaning “youthful” and is historically understood to refer to a Christian woman in Rome who was esteemed as an apostle. And, possibly a young(er) one, given her name.

But the thing that jumped out at me is this – Paul was given the primary assignment of preaching the gospel message to the Gentiles (of which I am one). So until I read this verse more closely, I figured I somehow am a descendant of Paul, who was affected largely by the martyrdom of Stephen. So I could reasonably count Paul and Stephen as my spiritual ancestors. But here we see that Junia – a young, Christian, Gentile, ministry-leader woman, was a believer *before* Paul, and doing the work of spreading the gospel to the Gentiles before him.

How cool would it be if I am a descendant of Junia? I sure can relate to her, being a younger woman in ministry leadership. I think if I could pick an ancestor, she would be it!

#### Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

#### Like this:

Like Loading...

## Learning to Be a Big Boy

07 *Monday* Dec 2009

Posted by [kushibaka](#) in [kid stories, raising kids](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

Siah and I were picking up food at a restaurant for a party at home later that day. He had been so patient with me as I negotiated arrangements and discounts with the manager – (long story not worth re-living). And it was his patience that led me to commit a bit of a lapse in judgment.

“Mama, I have to go potty.”

“Ok, Siah. Hold on and I’ll take you.”

“No, Mama. I’m a big boy now. I can do it myself. I want to go into the bafrum for BOYS, not for girls.”

And this is where my lapse in judgment happened...

“...Ok, Siah.” Go ahead. Remember to flush the potty and wash your hands.

I stood right outside the “bafrum” to keep an eye on all the men coming and going. Three men later, I still had no sign of Siah. So I asked a guy going in to check on him for me. He came back and reported that Siah was SITTING IN THE URINAL, DOING HIS BUSINESS. I peeked around the door and saw two little feet dangling out from behind the privacy wall, and Siah’s coat on the floor. [GAG!]

As soon as the restroom cleared out, I charged in there. In part out of embarrassment and in part because my dear son clearly needed some help figuring out how things work. And it was the latter tug on my heart string that caused me to ignore the fact that it probably would be more embarrassing for me to be in the men’s bathroom should some guy walk in. Whatever. A Mama’s gotta do what a Mama’s gotta do.

So we hustled our muscles, wiped his bottom, had a discussion about how “bowel movements” are supposed to happen in the potty and not in the urinal, washed his hands, and exited as quickly as we could.

It was memorable for me – he is so funny in how he sees the world and thinks things work. As for him – he was beaming because he’s a big boy who went potty all by himself in the BOYS bathroom!

#### Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

#### Like this:

Like Loading...

## God With Us

02 *Wednesday* Dec 2009

Posted by [kushibaka](#) in [my spiritual journey, raising kids, spiritual truths](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

I took Siah to the bathroom at the church space. And while I was waiting for him, I realized that the stools for kids to reach the sink were missing from the bathroom. I told him I was going to run and grab them and I’d be back in a couple seconds. So I did – ran out, got them, and hustled back before you could say “Supercalifragilisticexpialidocious.”

But when I got back, Siah was in hysterics. Puffy red cheeks, big streaming tears, crying out, “YOU LEFT ME! YOU LEFT ME!” It tore my heart up.

I stroked his head and face, wiped his tears, and held him closely. Then I told him something that I thought was encouraging and reassuring: “I didn’t leave you, Siah. I just ran out for a second to get the stools. See? I came right back. You are one of the most important people in the whole world to me. I didn’t leave you – I’ll never leave you!”

He was much calmer, but then right at the end of my comment, he pulled away, looked me square in the eyes, and said very matter-of-factly, “But you DID leave me!”

Ouch.

After I got over the initial sting of having let my son down, his response precipitated a huge “ah-ha!” moment for me. Even though my heart was with Siah, even though my intent was to return to his visible presence imminently, it didn’t matter – I technically left him, and he perceived it as being abandoned.

This is where my “I’ll never leave you” is fundamentally different from Jesus’s “I’ll never leave you.” When He says “I’ll never leave you,” He means not even technically....not even to grab the stools. When He says His name is “Emmanuel, God with us,” He means He always is with us. He never leaves us, not even for a second.

He will never leave us. He will never forsake us. He is Emmanuel, God with us.

#### Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

#### Like this:

Like Loading...

Search:

## Follow Blog

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 904 other followers

## Recent Posts

- [Being Blind and Carrying Car Keys](#)
- [More relationship...](#)
- [Another Open Letter to President Obama](#)
- [You Can’t Make This Up](#)
- [Burton’s Take on Birth Control](#)

## Archives

- [October 2013](#)
- [September 2013](#)
- [August 2013](#)
- [June 2013](#)
- [May 2013](#)
- [April 2013](#)
- [March 2013](#)
- [February 2013](#)
- [January 2013](#)
- [December 2012](#)
- [November 2012](#)
- [October 2012](#)
- [September 2012](#)
- [August 2012](#)
- [July 2012](#)
- [June 2012](#)
- [May 2012](#)
- [April 2012](#)
- [March 2012](#)
- [January 2012](#)
- [December 2011](#)
- [November 2011](#)
- [October 2011](#)
- [September 2011](#)
- [August 2011](#)
- [July 2011](#)
- [April 2011](#)
- [March 2011](#)
- [February 2011](#)
- [January 2011](#)
- [December 2010](#)
- [November 2010](#)
- [October 2010](#)
- [September 2010](#)
- [August 2010](#)
- [July 2010](#)
- [June 2010](#)
- [May 2010](#)
- [April 2010](#)
- [March 2010](#)
- [February 2010](#)
- [January 2010](#)
- [December 2009](#)
- [November 2009](#)
- [October 2009](#)
- [September 2009](#)
- [August 2009](#)
- [July 2009](#)
- [June 2009](#)
- [May 2009](#)
- [March 2009](#)
- [February 2009](#)
- [January 2009](#)
- [December 2008](#)
- [November 2008](#)
- [October 2008](#)
- [September 2008](#)
- [August 2008](#)
- [July 2008](#)
- [June 2008](#)
- [May 2008](#)
- [April 2008](#)
- [March 2008](#)
- [February 2008](#)
- [January 2008](#)
- [December 2007](#)
- [November 2007](#)
- [October 2007](#)
- [September 2007](#)
- [August 2007](#)
- [July 2007](#)
- [June 2007](#)
- [May 2007](#)
- [April 2007](#)
- [March 2007](#)
- [February 2007](#)
- [January 2007](#)

## Categories

Select Category

[Blog at WordPress.com. The Chateau Theme.](#)

[Follow](#)

### Follow “Kelly Tshibaka”

Get every new post delivered to your Inbox.

Join 904 other followers

Powered by [WordPress.com](#)

%d bloggers like this:

- [About](#)
- [Resources](#)
- [Speaking](#)

## Kelly Tshibaka

### ~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional

Search:



## Monthly Archives: February 2010

### From Paris with Love

26 Friday Feb 2010

Posted by [kshibaka in movie, recommendations](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

From Paris with Love: new John Travolta movie. Great job, Travolta – totally different character and very convincing. Great action – totally worth it. Good plot. And totally terrible dialogue. TOTALLY TERRIBLE. But if you know that going in, it could actually be a humour point rather than a disap-point.

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

Like this:

Like Loading...

### Snow and Me and Snow

26 Friday Feb 2010

Posted by [kshibaka in Bible study, my spiritual journey, spiritual truths](#)

≈ [2 Comments](#)

For as the rain and snow come down from heaven and do not return there without watering the earth, and making it bear and sprout, and furnishing seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so will be My word which goes forth from my mouth. It will not return to me empty, without accomplishing my desire, and succeeding in the matter for which I sent it. Isa. 55.

The snow does what it's supposed to do simply by being snow. It doesn't set out a plan for watering the earth. It doesn't figure out how to maximize the efficiency of its coverage. It doesn't anxiously consider how it should melt. It just is. And by simply being, it fully accomplishes God's purposes for it.

And the same is true for me. God is showing me that I will accomplish His purposes in my life just by being me. I don't have to spin my wheels – making a lot of holy smoke! – in order to be a good and faithful servant. I don't have to work frantically to make Him happy. I don't have to do, do, do to make sure I don't miss God's calling. I simply have to be myself. And not let fear prevent the fullness of me from being expressed.

This is how God placed the above passage on my heart. In other words, this is His word for me right now:

For as the rain and snow come down from heaven and do not return there without watering the earth, and making it bear and sprout, and furnishing seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so will you be. You will not return to me empty, without accomplishing my desire, and succeeding in the matter for which I sent you. Isa. 55.

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

Like this:

Like Loading...

### Things that Stood Out to Me in the Book of Job

12 Friday Feb 2010

Posted by [kshibaka in Bible study, miscarriage, my spiritual journey, personal, spiritual truths, women's topics](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

The Lord gave and the Lord has taken away. Blessed be the name of the Lord. (1:21)  
Job did not sin with his lips. (In silence, it's hard to sin) (2:10)  
He sits on high those who are lowly. And those who mourn are lifted to safety. (5:11)  
So the helpless has hope (5:16)  
He inflicts pain, and gives relief; He wounds, and His hands also heal. (5:18)  
You will know also that your descendants will be many, and your offspring as the grass of the earth (I believe God has promised us even more children than Buton, Slah, and Josef)(5:25)  
Though I am righteous, my mouth will condemn me (9:20) (Again, better to not speak)  
Though I say, 'I will forget my complaint, I will leave off my sad countenance and be cheerful', I am afraid of all my pains. (9:28) (Wow, so true – some of the places I am feeling pain, and the level at which I am feeling them, really scare me. I didn't anticipate encountering fear in the depths of all this)  
Trust, because there is hope. (11:18)  
Though He slay me, I will hope in Him (13:15)

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

Like this:

Like Loading...

### God Wants to Listen to Me

09 Tuesday Feb 2010

Posted by [kshibaka in miscarriage, my spiritual journey, spiritual truths](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

A friend called the other day to check on me. She didn't think I'd pick up, but she wanted me to know she loved me. It was one of the few moments in the past couple weeks when I felt like talking. I was so thankful she called – she was just the person I wanted to talk to.

Turns out, though, that she didn't really have time to talk. So our conversation ended abruptly, and I hung up wishing she had wanted to talk to me, not my voicemail. And it made me sad.

But God always wants to talk to me. And He wants me to talk to Him. He doesn't just want me to register a "call" into His "voicemail." And when I don't really want to talk, I suspect that makes Him sad, too. He's always available for me and has all the time in the world to talk, to listen, and to be.

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

Like this:

Like Loading...

### Frozen Pine Tree

09 Tuesday Feb 2010

Posted by [kshibaka in miscarriage, my spiritual journey, spiritual truths, women's topics](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

Early this morning I headed out for a walk in the snow in silence with the intent to spend some time with God. It was crisp, beautiful, fresh, pure. The ground, the white fence, the trees, and the mountains were shrouded in a foot or so of new, untouched, snow. Given how early it was, I may well have been the first person to see it all. I loved it.

And I saw a snow-kissed pine tree. Stately, strong, rooted. Then high up on the tree, two little pinecones caught my eye. Far as I could tell, they were the only two pinecones left on the tree.

What I saw in that moment was a world in a season of death — it was a blizzardy winter. But here was hope of life. A promise that this would pass and this pine tree would see new life.

And I felt like God whisper to me, "That's a picture of you right now, Kelly. You're in a season where you're experiencing death. But see – in the midst of it there is hope for the future. There are seeds of the promise. Spring is coming. And look around – even in this moment of sorrow and death, there is beauty. I have overcome the world. I have washed sin white as snow."

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

Like this:

Like Loading...

### Thoughts on the Love of God

09 Tuesday Feb 2010

Posted by [kshibaka in my spiritual journey, spiritual truths](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

The love of God is measurable – it has a length, width, height, and depth. It's measurable because it's real, tangible, concrete, if you will. It's not fleeting or an emotive love. It's a substantive, foundational love.

The love of God is immeasurable – it is unending, unfathomable, unfalling, and unknowable with the human mind. It is unconditional, unearned, undeserved, and unimaginable.

God loves us not because of who we are or what we've done. He loves us because He is love. He can't help Himself.

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

Like this:

Like Loading...

### Waiting

09 Tuesday Feb 2010

Posted by [kshibaka in spiritual truths](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

When we feel like nothing's happening, that's when the big stuff is happening. Like how the worst sunburns happen on the cloudy days.

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

Like this:

Like Loading...

### God's Anointing

09 Tuesday Feb 2010

Posted by [kshibaka in miscarriage, my spiritual journey, spiritual truths](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

A couple spirit-filled people recently have told us that the suffering we're currently facing marks the beginning of a fresh and powerful anointing that God already has begun pouring out on us. Not that they're causally related, but that often deep sorrow or serious trials occur at the beginning of fresh power from God. I see that in scripture in several people's stories, including Jesus'. I also see that in Ephesians 3:14-19, which I'm meditating on right now.

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

Like this:

Like Loading...

### One Thing I Hate

08 Monday Feb 2010

Posted by [kshibaka in miscarriage, personal, women's topics](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

The last couple days, I've been getting flutters in my stomach. They feel an awful lot like the early movements of a baby. If what happened hadn't happened, I would sincerely believe it was Shiloh moving around.

I hate those stupid flutters.

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

Like this:

Like Loading...

### Buton's Grieving

08 Monday Feb 2010

Posted by [kshibaka in Uncategorized](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

When she thought nobody was looking, Buton surreptitiously turned over one of Josef's pictures on the fridge.

The next morning I got her up while Slah was still sleeping and invited her to quietly come into my room and snuggle in bed with me. I told her how much I loved her and told her I had some questions for her.

"Don't make them too difficult, okay, Mama?"

"Okay, Buton. I promise they won't be difficult. Buton, how do you feel about your baby brother from Ethiopia coming home to live with us?"

"Happy, Mama."

"Okay."

"And angry, too."

My heart hurt for her. "Why does it make you angry?"

"Because nobody will be spending the night in my room. Baby Shiloh was supposed to sleep in my room, but since she went to heaven to be with Jesus, now nobody will be spending the night with me. And that makes me angry."

[Wow. As a mom what do I say to that, Lord???]

"I'm angry, too, Buton. I'm angry baby Shiloh's gone. I understand how you feel."

I held her tightly. "Buton? I have an idea. What if baby Josef spends the night in your room sometimes? I mean, after all, you are his sister. It would be perfectly appropriate for you to cuddle him and for him to camp out in your room sometimes. What do you think?"

She lit up! "Oh, yeah, Mama! How about Josef spends the night in my room one night, and then in Slah's room one night, and then in my room one night, and then in Slah's room one night, and then in ..."

I laughed. "Yes, Buton, but Josef's going to need a room of his own. And he IS a boy, so he'll be in the boy's room. But he definitely can come spend the night in your room sometimes. And you can help me and daddy take care of him, too."

"Oh, yes, Mama. I can feed him, and play with him, and put clothes on him, and change his poopy diapers — ewww!"

We both shared a laugh over that!

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

Like this:

Like Loading...

← [Older posts](#)

Search:

### Follow Blog

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 904 other followers

### Recent Posts

- [Being Blind and Carrying Car Keys](#)
- [More relationships...](#)
- [Another Open Letter to President Obama](#)
- [You Can't Make This Up](#)
- [Buton's Take on Birth Control](#)

### Archives

- [October 2013](#)
- [September 2013](#)
- [August 2013](#)
- [June 2013](#)
- [May 2013](#)
- [April 2013](#)
- [March 2013](#)
- [February 2013](#)
- [January 2013](#)
- [December 2012](#)
- [November 2012](#)
- [October 2012](#)
- [September 2012](#)
- [August 2012](#)
- [July 2012](#)
- [June 2012](#)
- [May 2012](#)
- [April 2012](#)
- [March 2012](#)
- [January 2012](#)
- [December 2011](#)
- [November 2011](#)
- [October 2011](#)
- [September 2011](#)
- [August 2011](#)
- [July 2011](#)
- [April 2011](#)
- [March 2011](#)
- [February 2011](#)
- [January 2011](#)
- [December 2010](#)
- [November 2010](#)
- [October 2010](#)
- [September 2010](#)
- [August 2010](#)
- [July 2010](#)
- [June 2010](#)
- [May 2010](#)
- [April 2010](#)
- [March 2010](#)
- [February 2010](#)
- [January 2010](#)
- [December 2009](#)
- [November 2009](#)
- [October 2009](#)
- [September 2009](#)
- [August 2009](#)
- [July 2009](#)
- [June 2009](#)
- [May 2009](#)
- [March 2009](#)
- [February 2009](#)
- [January 2009](#)
- [December 2008](#)
- [November 2008](#)
- [October 2008](#)
- [September 2008](#)
- [August 2008](#)
- [July 2008](#)
- [June 2008](#)
- [May 2008](#)
- [April 2008](#)
- [March 2008](#)
- [February 2008](#)
- [January 2008](#)
- [December 2007](#)
- [November 2007](#)
- [October 2007](#)
- [September 2007](#)
- [August 2007](#)
- [July 2007](#)
- [June 2007](#)
- [May 2007](#)
- [April 2007](#)
- [March 2007](#)
- [February 2007](#)
- [January 2007](#)

### Categories

Select Category

[Blog at WordPress.com - The Chateau Theme.](#)

[Follow](#)

Follow "Kelly Tshibaka"

Get every new post delivered to your Inbox.

Join 904 other followers

Powered by [WordPress.com](#)

%d bloggers like this:

- About
- Resources
- Speaking

## Kelly Tshibaka

### ~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional

Search:



## Monthly Archives: *March 2011*

### I was Moved with Compassion for this Family

28 Monday Mar 2011

Posted by [kshibaka in ministry](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

*When I hear a story like this, I wonder “why did this come my way? Lord, what would you have me do?” I was moved with compassion to help them. Please pray and give as you feel led– This is what it means to be the body of Christ.*

7-year-old Ian is waiting for a heart transplant. He was a healthy boy until about a month ago, and then all of a sudden his heart failed. He’s currently on a Berlin heart right now, which is temporary until he gets a heart. They say the waiting time is an average of 6 months, so Ian will be on the Berlin heart until then. It is a big device that sticks out of his chest and is attached to a cart. Because of his condition, he can’t even see his sister.

Friends and family are helping to raise funds for Ian’s family, as the costs are going to be huge, not only for the operation but also living expenses for the next several months. It is a long journey. Right now, Ian’s family is struggling to cover their day to day expenses. So any gift is appreciated.

You can contribute directly through a paypal account or send a check in mail (let me know if you prefer this option and I’ll send you the mailing address). Here is the paypal account set up in Ian’s name: go directly to Pay Pal and use the email address [ian.fund.thompson2011@gmail.com](mailto:ian.fund.thompson2011@gmail.com)

#### Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

#### Like this:

Like Loading...

### Note of Encouragement from a Friend

27 Sunday Mar 2011

Posted by [kshibaka in Notes for Pastor's Wife](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

Just what I needed, right when I needed it:

“Just remember, God’s proud of you and your accomplishments/career, so whenever you feel like your too busy, just take a deep breath and know that You’re Awesome and I’m sure your husband, kids, church and co-workers think so too.”

#### Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

#### Like this:

Like Loading...

### What to Look for in a Husband

25 Friday Mar 2011

Posted by [kshibaka in marriage, women's topics](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

Christian single women look for many attributes in a husband—from similarities in faith beliefs to good looks. In my estimation, the most important attribute a woman can look for—right after whether the man loves Jesus—is whether the man cherishes her.

2 Samuel 12 tells the story of how Nathan confronted King David after King David killed a man named Uriah so he could marry Uriah’s wife, Bathsheba. Nathan uses this story to describe for King David how Uriah loved Bathsheba:

“There were two men in one city, the one rich and the other poor. The rich man had a great many flocks and herds. But the poor man had nothing except one little ewe lamb which he bought and nourished; and it grew up together with him and his children. It would eat of his bread and drink of his cup and lie in his bosom, and was like a daughter to him. Now a traveler came to the rich man, and he was unwilling to take from his own flock or his own herd, to prepare for the wayfarer who had come to him; rather he took the poor man’s ewe lamb and prepared it for the man who had come to him.”

Uriah cherished Bathsheba. Though he had food, and drink, and children, “he had nothing except her.” She was his world. She lit up his life like a baby girl does her father’s.

In contrast, for King David, Bathsheba was just one of many in the herd. He had a lot of flocks and herds. He had a lot of everything, really. And she was added to his collection. He wanted her—for his own pleasure and satisfaction. But he did not want her like Uriah wanted her. King David’s want was based on *him* (and his lust); Uriah’s want was based on *her* (he cherished her for who she was).

My prayer for all the single Christian women in my life is that they marry Jesus-loving men who truly cherish them.

#### Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

#### Like this:

Like Loading...

### Words from the Lord for Me Lately

21 Monday Mar 2011

Posted by [kshibaka in my spiritual journey, spiritual truths](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

There’s a theme here—can you see it?

*Do not fear! Stand by and see the salvation of the Lord which He will accomplish for you today; for the Egyptians whom you have seen today, you will never see them again forever. The Lord will fight for you while you keep silent.* Exodus 14:13-14

*For everyone who does evil hates the Light, and does not come into the Light for fear that his deeds will be exposed. But he who practices the truth comes to the Light, so that his deeds may be manifested as having been wrought in God.* John 3:20-21

*Do not fear for those who are with us are more than those who are with them. “O Lord, I pray, open his eyes that he may see.” And the Lord opened the servant’s eyes and he saw; and behold, the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire all around Elisha.* 2 Kings 6:16-17

*You need not fight in this battle; station yourselves, stand and see the salvation of the Lord on your behalf, O Judah & Jerusalem. Do not fear or be dismayed; tomorrow go out and face them for the Lord is with you.* 2 Chronicles 20:17

*Do not be afraid any longer, but go on speaking and do not be silent; for I am with you, and no man will attack you in order to harm you, for I have many people [here].* Acts 18:9-10

#### Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

#### Like this:

Like Loading...

### Shame

20 Sunday Mar 2011

Posted by [kshibaka in word](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

Definition of SHAME

1a : a painful emotion caused by consciousness of guilt, shortcoming, or impropriety b : the susceptibility to such emotion

2: a condition of humiliating disgrace or disrepute : ignominy

3a : something that brings censure or reproach; also : something to be regretted : pity b : a cause of feeling shame

#### Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

#### Like this:

Like Loading...

### “Outback”

19 Saturday Mar 2011

Posted by [kshibaka in funny, kid stories](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

Button, totally innocently, calls the Outback near our home, “Outhouse.”

“Mama, can we go to OUTHOUSE for dinner?”

Um, no.

#### Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

#### Like this:

Like Loading...

### The Passing of Bill Stuntz

17 Thursday Mar 2011

Posted by [kshibaka in personal](#)

≈ [2 Comments](#)

My protestant Christian law professor (there was only one at Harvard Law at the time), Bill Stuntz, passed away on March 15 after a long battle with cancer. Here’s the article in the Harvard Law newspaper: [http://www.law.harvard.edu/news/2011/02/15\\_william-stuntz.htm](http://www.law.harvard.edu/news/2011/02/15_william-stuntz.htm)

In the world of law, he was one of the most highly respected criminal law minds. In fact, his “Policing the Police” was one of my favorite classes during law school and has most shaped and informed my legal career.

In the kingdom of God, Stuntz was a warrior, an advocate, and an example to follow. I remember the way he supported our Christian Fellowship. I remember him delighting in his children, advocating for his daughter, and being devoted to his wife. I am thankful for the generosity he showed me and Niki in the gift he got us for our wedding. I was shaped by the way he challenged my thinking as a Christian—from prosperity theology to the calling of a lawyer. And I am grateful for the way he put things into perspective during my turbulent 3rd year when I was unable to get a job in one of the big-named-law-firms most respected by the Harvard Law crowd. “What matters to these people doesn’t really matter,” he said. There was something about it coming from *him* that made it true.

I admire the way he fought the good fight. I remember him talking about the intensity of the spiritual battle he and his family faced in Cambridge and how tempting it was to move back to UVA. But he didn’t. He knew God called him to Harvard Law, and he was not going to concede the ground to the enemy.

His perseverance served as a light in the darkness to us believers on campus. I remember walking across campus one night, totally overwhelmed and in despair. Law school was hard. And it seemed like it wasn’t worth it. But then I walked past the library and saw Stuntz’s light on in his office. Just knowing he was there was such an encouragement to continue persevering myself.

I also remember how nothing shook his belief in the goodness of God. No matter how sick he was, he believed in God, he trusted God, and he knew God was good.

He lived well. He grew well. He made a profound difference. And I believe he has heard those priceless words, “Well done, good and faithful servant.”

#### Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

#### Like this:

Like Loading...

### Sin Ain’t Always What You Think It Is

16 Wednesday Mar 2011

Posted by [kshibaka in ministry, spiritual truths, worldly matters](#)

≈ [1 Comment](#)

Sin ain’t always what you think it is. Let’s take pride for example. We think of humility as being a bar, say at floor level, and anything over the bar of humility is pride (arrogance, pompousness, egomania). And that’s true. But humility actually is a mid-level bar. And anything under it is pride, too. It’s just harder to recognize. For example, insecurity and self-consciousness are just as prideful as arrogance and pompousness because the focus is still ME. Whether we’re over or under the bar of humility, we’ve stumbled into the trap of sin.

Same thing’s true with love of money. We think of anything over the bar of money as love of money—having too much money, greed, workaholicism, overspending, maybe even being rich. So in our efforts to strive to not love money, we can unknowingly stumble under the bar of money and end up loving it just the same in our lack of it (e.g., choosing to live in poverty or not pay bills, unwisely neglecting to save anything, focusing (obsessing?) on sales and coupons). In this place, we’re still focusing on money, money, money. So it’s just as sinful as greed or workaholicism—at its essence, it’s worshipping mammon.

Our enemy prowls around like a lion looking for who he can devour. He doesn’t care if you stumble above or below the bar. He just wants you to stumble. And he will use any measure of deceit to get you to stumble—he is the father of all lies, after all. One of his strategies is to get us to sin while we think we’re doing a pretty good job of not sinning.

#### Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

#### Like this:

Like Loading...

### Facebook Scares Me

15 Tuesday Mar 2011

Posted by [kshibaka in deep thoughts, general, worldly matters](#)

≈ [1 Comment](#)

- From a social perspective: Facebook (and all social networking) has changed the essence of relationship. We increasingly replace relationship with information, thinking we are connecting with people simply because we posted something on a “wall.”
- From a marriage perspective: A significant number of divorces is occurring over the content of Facebook pages. One divorce lawyer in New York has a full load of divorce cases generated over something a spouse posted.
- From a protecting kids perspective: 1/3 or more of Facebook pages are fake.
- From a national security perspective: The Russians own over 12% of Facebook
- From a you’ve-got-to-be-kidding-me perspective: Any picture uploaded to Facebook can be accessed for all time, including that not-so-flattering candid posted by your “friend” who you met at a party once. And that picture has embedded metadata—so people can see the original picture (if it was cropped, the cropped part is still out there FOREVER) and tell from the metadata exactly where it was taken (if it was taken in your backyard, anyone in the world can find out exactly where you live by the metadata stored in the picture file).
- From a where-did-my-privacy-go perspective: By analyzing which of your friends talk to which of your friends, Facebook has a creepy-accurate ability to determine your respective social groups, how they know each other, what they have in common, who you talk to (or like) the most, and how they’re affiliated with you. CREEPY.

And we’re worried about the Patriot Act?

#### Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

#### Like this:

Like Loading...

— Older posts

Search:

### Follow Blog

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 904 other followers

### Recent Posts

- [Being Blind and Carrying Car Keys](#)
- [More relations...](#)
- [Formerly Open Letter to President Obama](#)
- [You Can't Make This Up](#)
- [Button's Take on Birth Control](#)

### Archives

- [October 2013](#)
- [September 2013](#)
- [August 2013](#)
- [June 2013](#)
- [May 2013](#)
- [April 2013](#)
- [March 2013](#)
- [February 2013](#)
- [January 2013](#)
- [December 2012](#)
- [November 2012](#)
- [October 2012](#)
- [September 2012](#)
- [August 2012](#)
- [July 2012](#)
- [June 2012](#)
- [May 2012](#)
- [April 2012](#)
- [March 2012](#)
- [January 2012](#)
- [December 2011](#)
- [November 2011](#)
- [October 2011](#)
- [September 2011](#)
- [August 2011](#)
- [July 2011](#)
- [April 2011](#)
- [March 2011](#)
- [February 2011](#)
- [January 2011](#)
- [December 2010](#)
- [November 2010](#)
- [October 2010](#)
- [September 2010](#)
- [August 2010](#)
- [July 2010](#)
- [June 2010](#)
- [May 2010](#)
- [April 2010](#)
- [March 2010](#)
- [February 2010](#)
- [January 2010](#)
- [December 2009](#)
- [November 2009](#)
- [October 2009](#)
- [September 2009](#)
- [August 2009](#)
- [July 2009](#)
- [June 2009](#)
- [May 2009](#)
- [March 2009](#)
- [February 2009](#)
- [January 2009](#)
- [December 2008](#)
- [November 2008](#)
- [October 2008](#)
- [September 2008](#)
- [August 2008](#)
- [July 2008](#)
- [June 2008](#)
- [May 2008](#)
- [April 2008](#)
- [March 2008](#)
- [February 2008](#)
- [January 2008](#)
- [December 2007](#)
- [November 2007](#)
- [October 2007](#)
- [September 2007](#)
- [August 2007](#)
- [July 2007](#)
- [June 2007](#)
- [May 2007](#)
- [April 2007](#)
- [March 2007](#)
- [February 2007](#)
- [January 2007](#)

### Categories

Select Category

Blog at WordPress.com. The Chateau Theme.

Follow

### Follow “Kelly Tshibaka”

Get every new post delivered to your Inbox.

Join 904 other followers

Powered by [WordPress.com](#)

%d bloggers like this:



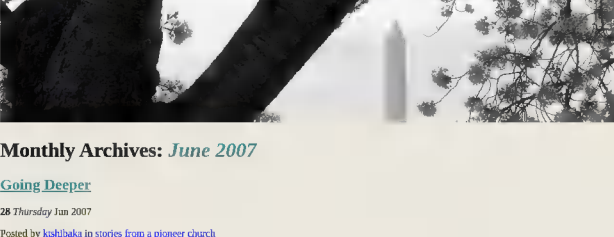


- [About](#)
- [Resources](#)
- [Speaking](#)

## Kelly Tshibaka

### ~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional

Search:



## Monthly Archives: *June 2007*

### [Going Deeper](#)

**28 Thursday Jun 2007**

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [stories from a pioneer church](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

Let's face it. Sunday services to themselves don't allow us to go much deeper in our walks and relationships with the Lord. You can only fit so much into one service, and people are at different levels of receptiveness and spiritual understanding. Even if a church service is not geared towards unbelievers or new believers, it will usually leave some hungry believers longing for more — for spiritual meat rather than milk.

Churches have tried to address this gap by instituting adult Sunday schools (usually an hour of instruction prior to the service), building up its cell group infrastructure, or hosting conferences and seminars. One sister church in our area started a program called "A Little More" — where people can come for an evening and get "a little more" teaching, "a little more" worship, or "a little more" of something else.

In our church, we have started a monthly event called Teleios. "Teleios" (TELL-eh-awhs) is the Greek word for "mature" or "perfected," and it is used in the book of Hebrews to describe Christians who are mature in their faith and at a place where God wants them to be ("perfected"). Our Teleios nights are designed to bring people into greater Christian maturity — to take us to a deeper level than we can achieve in a Sunday service. They are not geared towards seekers; they are geared towards believers who want to advance further in their walks with the Lord.

Our first Teleios event will focus on worship — not only experiencing it, but also understanding some of the principles and practices behind it. We will be ushered fully into the presence of God while we worship for a couple hours, and we will answer some questions about worship, like "why do we raise our hands?"; "why do people dance?"; "how loud do I sing?"; "why do we sing at all?"; and "why do we sing the songs that we do?"

I have great expectations for this evening; whenever people are in the presence of God amazing things happen.

**Share this:**

- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

**Like this:**

Like Loading...

### [How do pastors stay fed?](#)

**26 Tuesday Jun 2007**

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [spiritual truths](#), [stories from a pioneer church](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

One of the issues we struggled with in deciding to start a church was, "How will we be spiritually fed?" It seemed paradoxical — how can you provide spiritual nourishment for others when you're not being fed yourself? Unlike other believers, pastors don't go to church once a week where they are refreshed, built up, and educated in the Word and spiritual truths.

Several pastors told us that it would not be an issue, but we had to find out for ourselves how it would work. And this is what I've learned. Asking a pastor how she will be fed is like asking a chef how she will eat. Have you ever known a skinny chef?

Pastors are fed by preparing and delivering messages. I'd wager that very few — if any — church members could recall what subjects their pastor spoke on for the last 4 Sundays they attended church. But I guarantee you that the pastor remembers. You get more out of learning and teaching a subject than you do just by listening to it.

Pastors also are fed by discipling each individual in the body — taking them further in their relationships with Jesus. That requires them to be able to speak knowledgeably and with authority on a variety of issues: from marriage to addictions, from finances to complex doctrinal points. Which means that in between preparing for Sunday messages, pastors have to research and counsel on all these other issues.

In short, staying fed is not the main issue pastors face. Rather, I have found that it is staying strong — enduring in the face of discouragement, remaining joyful in times of trial, and having faith in the midst of challenges.

**Share this:**

- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

**Like this:**

Like Loading...

### [Loving Doing What's Right](#)

**22 Friday Jun 2007**

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [kid stories](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

Sometimes before bed, I ask Botton what her favorite part of the day was. The other day, she said, "My favorite part was that I didn't get any time outs! I did the right thing!" She was so delighted in herself that she chose to do what was right. That was better to her than any special treats, snacks, tv shows, or outdoor excursions that day.

**Share this:**

- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

**Like this:**

Like Loading...

### [When the enemy Attacks](#)

**14 Thursday Jun 2007**

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [spiritual truths](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

Whether we like it or admit it, there is a war waging in the spiritual realm and we are part of it. We will come under attack by the enemy (Satan), and the more closely we are following God and walking with Him, the more we will be attacked.

A friend recently sent me some Bible verses and spiritual truths to use during these attacks, and I am reprinting them here for others to use when they're feeling attacked.

During attacks, it is best to pray these truths out loud, "Lord, I submit myself to your capable and tender care." Speak authoritatively to the enemy, "Satan, I am resisting you and you will flee from me." And simply read the Bible verses just as they are. What we speak has greater weight and authority than what we think; if a thought is a seed, what we say is the plant or fruit that came forth from that seed. It is a biblical truth: "Words are the overflow of the heart." That is why it is more powerful during attacks to pray and say scripture out loud than it is to merely meditate on it in your heart.

Here are the truths and verses:

Submit yourselves to God's capable and tender care all the more. "Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you." James 4:7

Satan can do nothing to you in any ultimate sense. Nothing can separate you from the love of God. "For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord." Romans 8:38-40

No one can take you out of His hand. "My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one can snatch them out of my hand. My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all; no one can snatch them out of my Father's hand." John 10:27-29

Satan can do nothing to you. Period. . . unless God permits. (Job 1-2)

Rest assured that God is working all things for your good (Romans 8:28), and don't be afraid. "Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness." Isaiah 41:10

"Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous; do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed. For the LORD your God is with you wherever you go." Joshua 1:9

"In this is love perfected with us, that we may have confidence for the day of judgment, because as he is so are we in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear. For fear has to do with punishment, and he who fears is not perfected in love." 1 John 4:17-19

Remember that in your weakness, He is strong and glorified. "He said unto me, My strength is made perfect in your weakness. Therefore will I rather glory in my weakness, that the power of Christ may rest upon me. Therefore I take pleasure in weakness: for when I am weak, then am I strong." 2 Corinthians 12:9,10

**Share this:**

- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

**Like this:**

Like Loading...

### [Following God Step by Step](#)

**14 Thursday Jun 2007**

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [stories from a pioneer church](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

Last Sunday was incredible — one of the best Sundays we've had, and a real pivotal moment of taking our fellowship deeper and deeper. We had been distracted by, for lack of a better word, "typical church." And we (mostly me) had started making decisions that would turn our fellowship into that, even though that's not the purpose or intent God has given us for our church. It was inadvertent, but the fact is that "typical church" is the only thing any of us knows. So it's easy to default into making decisions that lead in that direction. We had a Servant Team meeting in which we found creative, new ways to accomplish our vision and purpose without falling into typical church, and we implemented those ideas and saw incredible results in just one day. It really was amazing.

**Share this:**

- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

**Like this:**

Like Loading...

### [Healing: What about Surgery?](#)

**12 Tuesday Jun 2007**

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [spiritual truths](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

Divine healing is a mysterious thing. We know God can heal us miraculously, and we know He does. But we also know He doesn't always. So when we're facing a medical issue, and we have prayed for healing in faith, the hardest things to do are wait in faith and make medical decisions after that.

For example, if you have prayed in faith for healing from physical pain but all doctors agree that you need surgery, do you get the surgery? Some Christians would say no — wait for God to heal you miraculously. A greater number of other Christians would say yes — God no longer heals people miraculously, medicine is now the means He uses to heal people, so submit yourself to the knife every time.

But both these positions are off. God still heals miraculously, but He also works through medicine and doctors to heal people. Regardless of how we are healed, the fact is that it is God who has healed us. Apart from Him we can do nothing.

The decision of whether to undergo surgery is an individual one. It depends on what the Lord has told you. If He has said not to go to surgery and that He will heal you or He will be glorified in your weakness (as He repeatedly told the apostle Paul when Paul asked to be delivered from the "thorn in his side"), then do not have surgery. But if He has not told you this, or if you're not sure what He has said, then plan for the surgery and entrust yourself to His care.

God is not coy and He doesn't play mind games with us. He delights in our simple faith. If we pray sincerely, "Lord, I don't know what to do here. But I know you do. I'm planning on having this surgery. If you don't want me to, though, please stop me," then He will honor that.

The Christian subculture tends to emphasize that God's work is all about us. And from that perspective, it makes the most sense for God to heal us miraculously and instantaneously in response to our first prayer. But God's purposes are higher than ours, and His ways are not our ways. He's the ultimate multitasker — He uses the same incident or circumstance to accomplish His purposes in us as He does in others.

For example, He might use your surgery to accomplish something in the lives of the doctors, nurses, staff, or other patients you encounter. How is that less worthy in the kingdom of God than an instantaneous, miraculous healing? It's not. Throughout the Bible we learn that the purpose for miracles is to bring glory to God and draw people to Him. And that's His chief purpose for everything. He will use whatever means necessary accomplish that — whether it's through a miracle or through an encounter you will have with another person in the hospital.

Surgery is not antithetical to divine healing. Rather, it's a decision that should be made on a case-by-case basis depending on how the Lord has been leading you.

**Share this:**

- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

**Like this:**

Like Loading...

### [Just for Fun](#)

**05 Tuesday Jun 2007**

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [deep thoughts](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

A humorous forward that I customized (I am not into forwards, but this one was worth a good chuckle):

Are you a Martha or a Kelly?

Martha's Way: Stuff a miniature marshmallow in the bottom of a sugar cone to prevent ice cream drips.

Kelly's Way: Just suck the ice cream out of the bottom of the cone. Who has marshmallows lying around anyway? If I haven't eaten them, the kids have.

Martha's Way: Put potatoes from budding, place an apple in the bag with the potatoes.

Kelly's Way: Buy Idahoan instant mashed potato mix, keep it in the pantry for up to a year. If they bud, file a lawsuit and you'll be an instant millionaire.

Martha's Way: When a cake recipe calls for flouring the baking pan, use a bit of dry cake mix instead and there won't be any white mess on the outside of the cake.

Kelly's Way: Go to the bakery! They'll even decorate it for you.

Martha's Way: If you have prayed in faith for healing from physical pain but all doctors agree that you need surgery, drop in a peeled potato and it will absorb the excess salt for an instant "fix-me-up."

Kelly's Way: If you oversalt a dish while they are cooking, that's too bad. Let's say it together — "I made it and you will eat it!" Or, you can take me out if you prefer! Who has potatoes on hand anyway? I've only got this Idahoan stuff...

Martha's Way: Wrap celery in aluminum foil when put in the frig and it will keep for weeks. Kelly's Way: Celery? Never heard of it! Besides, why would you want to keep it around for weeks?

Martha's Way: Brush some beaten egg white over pie crust before baking to yield a glossy finish.

Kelly's Way: Bake? I thought those things were pre-made.

Martha's Way: Cure for headaches: take a lime, cut it in half and rub it on your forehead. The throbbing will go away.

Kelly's Way: (to a familiar, catchy tune) "Put da lime in da Coke, you mi, and drink it on down!" Take with 3 teaspoons, and you're in the clear.

Martha's Way: If you have a problem opening jars, try using latex dishwashing gloves. They give a non-slip grip that makes opening easy.

Kelly's Way: If you have a problem opening jars, ask a man or toss the jar.

Martha's Way: Don't throw out that leftover wine. Freeze into ice cubes for future use in casseroles and sauces.

Kelly's Way: Leftover wine?

**Share this:**

- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

**Like this:**

Like Loading...

### [Diagnosis: Suburbia](#)

**04 Monday Jun 2007**

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [balancing it all](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

There was an interesting article in the Washington Post this past weekend about a local pastor's sermon series on suburban life. The basic point of the series was that the hustling, task-oriented, jam-packed scheduling of suburbia leaves us dead inside: we laugh very little, relax very little, and enjoy our families — or anything else — very little, if at all.

Reading the article, I could totally relate. For the most part, I have stopped doing the things I love, or they have become mere tasks that get added to the neverending list (thus sapping any joy or life-giving aspect from them). I struggle with saying "no," and apparently this condition is epidemic in our area.

What was interesting about the article was how the church responded to the pastor's sermon. Some of them pulled their kids out of sports for a period; others let their grass grow or laundry pile up (I've already done that...). One family sold its house in an exclusive neighborhood and dumped its sports club membership to relieve stress related to finances and upkeep. And they're all happier.

I feel like I've been afflicted by some disease: Suburbia. I didn't see it sneak up on me, and wasn't aware of how bad of shape I was in until recently. But it's taken a toll on every area of my life. Including my physical health — I've been sick for over a week now, which is really unusual for me.

While I was reading the article, I began to consider the things I could cut out of my life to detox myself from "suburbia." The first thing that came to mind was the pitching lessons I do for little league fastpitch softball girls. I love softball, and I love the girls even more. But it takes 3-5 hours a week of precious evening time for me to coach these girls. That's time away from Botton & Leah, and that's time that other critical things aren't getting done. I plan on talking to Niki about it some more, but I think right now isn't the best time for me to be coaching.

And there's got to be other things, too, that I can either let go or I can ask someone to help me with. Bottom line: let the detox begin.

"Death by Suburb":

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2007/06/02/AR2007060201025.html>

**Share this:**

- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

**Like this:**

Like Loading...

### [Follow Blog](#)

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 904 other followers

### Recent Posts

- [Being Blind and Carrying Gar Keys](#)
- [More relationsh...](#)
- [Another Open Letter to President Obama](#)
- [You Can't Make This Up](#)
- [Burton's Take on Birth Control](#)

### Archives

- [October 2013](#)
- [September 2013](#)
- [August 2013](#)
- [June 2013](#)
- [May 2013](#)
- [April 2013](#)
- [March 2013](#)
- [February 2013](#)
- [January 2013](#)
- [December 2012](#)
- [November 2012](#)
- [October 2012](#)
- [September 2012](#)
- [August 2012](#)
- [July 2012](#)
- [June 2012](#)
- [May 2012](#)
- [April 2012](#)
- [March 2012](#)
- [January 2012](#)
- [December 2011](#)
- [November 2011](#)
- [October 2011](#)
- [September 2011](#)
- [August 2011](#)
- [July 2011](#)
- [April 2011](#)
- [March 2011](#)
- [February 2011](#)
- [January 2011](#)
- [December 2010](#)
- [November 2010](#)
- [October 2010](#)
- [September 2010](#)
- [August 2010](#)
- [July 2010](#)
- [June 2010](#)
- [May 2010](#)
- [April 2010](#)
- [March 2010](#)
- [February 2010](#)
- [January 2010](#)
- [December 2009](#)
- [November 2009](#)
- [October 2009](#)
- [September 2009](#)
- [August 2009](#)
- [July 2009](#)
- [June 2009](#)
- [May 2009](#)
- [March 2009](#)
- [February 2009](#)
- [January 2009](#)
- [December 2008](#)
- [November 2008](#)
- [October 2008](#)
- [September 2008](#)
- [August 2008](#)
- [July 2008](#)
- [June 2008](#)
- [May 2008](#)
- [April 2008](#)
- [March 2008](#)
- [February 2008](#)
- [January 2008](#)
- [December 2007](#)
- [November 2007](#)
- [October 2007](#)
- [September 2007](#)
- [August 2007](#)
- [July 2007](#)
- [June 2007](#)
- [May 2007](#)
- [April 2007](#)
- [March 2007](#)
- [February 2007](#)
- [January 2007](#)

### Categories

Select Category

[Blog at WordPress.com - The Chateau Theme.](#)

[Follow](#)

**Follow "Kelly Tshibaka"**

Get every new post delivered to your inbox.

Join 904 other followers

Powered by [WordPress.com](#)

960 bloggers like this:



- [About](#)
- [Resources](#)
- [Speaking](#)

## Kelly Tshibaka

### ~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional

Search:



## Monthly Archives: *October 2010*

### [A Halloween Interview with the Kids](#)

31 Sunday Oct 2010

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [kid stories](#), [raising kids](#), [spiritual truths](#), [worldly matters](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

Me: "Kids, what is Halloween all about?"

Siah: "Witches and vampires."

Button: "Evil."

Me: "Why is it evil?"

Button: "Because people are setting up bad things that scare other people and they play tricks on other people."

Siah: "During Halloween, what are we celebrating?"

Me: "Evil stuff."

Button: "We dress up so the evil spirits will pass by us, but it doesn't work."

Me: "Is there such a thing as evil spirits?"

Siah: "Yes! We dress up so they won't know who we are."

Button: "That doesn't work because the evil spirits know who we are. It doesn't matter what we're wearing. The spirit of death still sees us."

Me: "So how do we protect ourselves from evil spirits?"

Button: "We protect ourselves by Jesus. By Jesus' blood."

Siah: "I hate Halloween. I don't like the witches, goblins, and skeletons, and ghosts, and all the other evil things, and spiders, and vampires, and demons, and yucky spider poop, and ghost-es. I don't like Halloween."

Me: "So what does our family do on Halloween?"

Button: "We set up Christmas decorations."

Siah: "And give the candy."

Me: "Why do we give the candy? What kind of candy do we give them?"

Button: "We are giving them balls, tattoos, and stickers that talk about Jesus!"

Siah: "We're giving them toys about the light of Jesus."

Button: "Halloween is dumb."

Me: "Then why do people celebrate it?"

Button: "Because they think it's soooo fun to go trick-or-treating and scare people."

Share this:

- [Facebook](#)
- [Twitter](#)
- [LinkedIn](#)
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### [The Marathon Support Verse](#)

27 Wednesday Oct 2010

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [Bible study](#), [ministry](#), [my spiritual journey](#), [spiritual truths](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

*Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your toil is not in vain in the Lord. 1 Cor. 15:58*

What an encouraging verse! It reminds me of when I ran the Boston marathon and my friend Daryl ran back and forth from the hydration stands to bring me water and gatorade so I could simply keep going. That's what this verse is like — the verse that keeps you going!

The work of the Lord is hard — so much so that it was worth addressing this verse. Don't be surprised by your strong desire to pull back or give up in doing ministry, or by fighting the belief that what you're doing is pointless—that you're spending your strength for nothing and for vanity, as Isaiah wrote. Or that it doesn't matter if you do something — you don't add much anyway. I feel well acquainted with these feelings — I've — especially the last one.

But this verse has been a great encouragement to me, and it has strengthened my shield of faith as I have meditated on it during periods of doubt and fatigue.

Share this:

- [Facebook](#)
- [Twitter](#)
- [LinkedIn](#)
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### [Prayer](#)

26 Tuesday Oct 2010

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [my spiritual journey](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

Lord, please make me gentle and humble. Help me to come to You. Help me to count it all as loss—and to know what "it all" is! Anoint me with the oil of gladness. I want to be happy! I want to pray without ceasing and I want to be an effective intercessor. Please help me.

Share this:

- [Facebook](#)
- [Twitter](#)
- [LinkedIn](#)
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### [Christmas Shepherds](#)

26 Tuesday Oct 2010

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [Bible study](#), [spiritual truths](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

*In the same region there were some shepherds staying out in the fields and keeping watch over their flock by night. And an angel of the Lord suddenly stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them; and they were terribly frightened. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for behold, I bring you good news of great joy which will be for all the people; for today in the city of David there has been born for you a Savior, who is Christ the Lord." Lk. 2:8-11*

The angels first appeared to the shepherds. Why? "Shepherd" is the same word as "pastor" in Latin. So the Good News of Jesus was first announced to the pastors. They got a sneak preview into the miracles of God, the workings of God. The same is true for pastors today—we can get tips or leads as to what God is doing, and we often get to be the first to know of a promise being fulfilled. For me, that's the best part of ministry—getting to see first hand and front row the amazing power of God in people's lives and in the world.

In addition, the "pastors" to whom God decided to first announce the presence of the Messiah were the pastors who were watching their flocks by night. Pastors who cared enough about those who they were shepherding that they were watching over them, protecting them, contending for them, and comforting them in the middle of the night. This leads me to want to be more intentional about praying for people of our church throughout the night.

Also, this scripture contains a spiritual truth: oftentimes things of the spiritual world are more strongly or clearly experienced during the night. Whether it's a miracle or word from God or a spiritual attack requiring warfare, it's often felt more strongly at night—perhaps because the distractions of the world and tyranny of the urgent are minimized, making room for us to better pick up on things of the spiritual world?

Share this:

- [Facebook](#)
- [Twitter](#)
- [LinkedIn](#)
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### [Button's First \(Only?\) Fist Fight](#)

18 Monday Oct 2010

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [Uncategorized](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

We were on a play date with some friends of ours at the playground at Button's school. Button decided to try and play with an older boy (he had a pretty cool pogo stick that she was hoping he would share with her). He was about 9 years old, and a full foot taller than Button. Unfortunately, he was being rather nasty to Button. I was watching them from afar, and noticed that their body language indicated that a conflict was about. So, she headed over to the basketball court, and this is what she observed . . .

The boy was taunting Button, insulting her, mocking her, and being mean in general. Button kept trying to use mature conflict resolution skills to get through to him. But every time she'd say something like, "I'm not joking about this; I'm being serious," he would respond with something quintscentually Bart Simpson.

Finally, Button got fed up. She put her fists in the air and said, "Do you want a piece of me?" (she got this from the movie *Annie* and not from me!). Well, the boy was happy to oblige and took a swing at her, which she successfully dodged. He then began to taunt her again, because she avoided his punch. So, Button stepped back into the conflict, and he punched her in the chest. Button, of course, was very upset. So, she decided to take a swing, and clocked him in the face. At this point, fists began to fly and I stepped in and pulled the boy off of her. I then had a firm talk with him about how he was a man made in the image of God and that meant he was supposed to protect girls. It was like a 3-5 minute Kristineno-like sermon. . . but it ended with a high-5. Siah stood by the whole time validating everything I was saying and giving the boy a piece of his mind, too.

Niki said to me later, "You know that kid had no idea what you were talking about, right?" Yea, maybe, but spiritual truth is still truth. And if this was his first time hearing anything like that, hopefully it won't be his last. Mr. Picks-on-girls-a-foot-shorter-than-him.

After it was over, I explained to Button that while the kid threw the first punch, she took the conflict there with her invitation of "You wanna piece of me?" I explained to her about when Jesus said "turn the other cheek (apparently that's one of the lessons I hadn't emphasized before. . .) It was one of those moments where, on the one hand, you have to correct your child about "starting" a fight. But, on the other hand, I also wanted to affirm her for not backing down from one! I know I probably shouldn't be as amused as I am. But I've been grinning all weekend at her spunk and courage. She's my daughter. . . through and through! Now we just gotta channel that spunk, so no more boys get clocked in the face!

Share this:

- [Facebook](#)
- [Twitter](#)
- [LinkedIn](#)
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### [Joseph's First Birthday](#)

18 Monday Oct 2010

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [adoption](#), [kid stories](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

Last week was Joseph's first birthday! I am so excited that we got to spend it with him! (Most children are adopted after 1 years old).

We had a small family-based celebration. Mostly because his birthday was in the middle of the week, and I'm not so keen on throwing a huge bash when it would take lots of time, lots of money, and it would be overwhelming for him (and us). So we picked up some presents (hooney bails), a balloon (quite the hit), a party decoration for his high chair (so cute), and cake and ice cream.

We sang happy birthday a couple times (he thought it was cool at first, bouncing in his seat, but then started crying. I think the whole thing scared him a bit and he couldn't figure out what all the hoopla was about). And he loved it that we were paying SO much attention to him, and that we would randomly stop everything and bust out in applause for Joseph. The kids were especially into making it a big deal, even requesting their favorite birthday-associated songs (like *I Like to Move It Move It*) and dancing around crazy-like.

I love first birthdays—and getting to see kids eat cake for the first time. The excitement on their faces when they get that first bite of pure sugar — priceless! Well, that time of the evening came. And I waited in great anticipation — with the video camera rolling — to catch his reaction.

Niki fed him the cake first. He made a displeased face and growled a bit. Then Niki gave him pure frosting (that's where I would have been sold! Keep the cake, give me the frosting!). And again, Joseph was quite displeased and growled at us. So then Niki said, "Well, you're going to like the ice cream!" We're all ice cream monsters, and Niki's the worst of all! So he put some ice cream in Joseph's mouth, and again, frown and growl. Then Joseph paused, scowled at Niki, picked up the remainder of his bottle and kept drinking.

WOH!! So Joseph doesn't like sugar? We were so amused. I had imagined in my head something like Button and Siah's first birthday (I smeared the cake all over her because she wasn't really into it; he dove in and was covered in chocolate). But not for Joseph. He's just not that into sugar. And there's something really special about getting to discover each kid's special likes, dislikes, and personality.

Happy Birthday, baby boy. I love you to pieces.

Share this:

- [Facebook](#)
- [Twitter](#)
- [LinkedIn](#)
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### [In a Funk](#)

15 Friday Oct 2010

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [my spiritual journey](#), [personal](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

I don't know what's going on — I'm just "off." Not really convinced it's my problem to figure out or to fix. I didn't choose to be "off," and from what I can tell, I didn't really do anything to get myself here. It's a funk, and I trust God will fix it if I continue to turn it over to Him.

O, my soul, why are you disturbed within me?

I'm emotionally and spiritually numb right now. Not really feeling things the way I usually do. For example, I was at a retreat where amazing God-stuff happened. Normally, I would tear up (or, to be honest, cry) in such situations — my body typically responds to moves of the Spirit with tears. But this time, I didn't even come close. Everyone else who was there cried at least once. Not me. I didn't even have to fight tears. It was like I was only there in part.

I'm feeling gray, down, muted. . . Whatever the word is. Not sure if it's me or if it's me picking up on how people in our church are feeling (we can experience spiritually what those who we're discipling are going through). Regardless, I'm praying against it. I want some color back!!!

This week has been very busy, very productive, and given me hope for some new opportunities at work. So superficially, I'm feeling better. But I can still tell that my soul is overcast and chilly with no real anytime I stop and separate myself from the distractions of the to-do list, it's there. Truthfully, I'd rather hide behind the tyranny of the urgent than face whatever this is. If I distract myself long enough, it'll go away, right? Wrong.

I'm trying to lift my spirits by expressing my thanks to God for anything and everything I can think of. Praising God lifts our spirits. I'm also trying to conjure up happiness by plastering a smile on my face and smiling long enough, you begin to feel the smile on the inside, too. But neither of these things are really working. Regardless, praising and smiling are good things. So I'll continue. And I'll have the grace to lift, too.

I told God that I feel like my heart is sick because hope deferred makes the heart sick. And my hope for a lot of dreams just seems perpetually deferred. Right now, it seems like one dream is slipping further and further away. I feel like I've been running the race with all my might, but they moved the finish line to 26 miles away in the other direction. Not cool.

It's so tempting to take my despairing soul and to dispense of it quickly. Like another to-do item on my type-A-never-ending-super-intense-gotta-stay-focused-to-accomplish-all-I-want list. But I suspect that's not what God wants. Personal things don't go on a to-do list — you don't "do" soul care. I'd love to be okay with being sad or confused. I'd like to be nicer to myself when I'm in these places. And as I throw platitudes at myself like, "Snap out of it!" (Though that did work in a mighty way for me once and brought me out of a spiraling depression. So maybe I've put too much stock in such a hollow philosophy. Experience shouldn't become biblical truth.)

What's God got to say about this? I'm finding answers in Ps. 131 and Ps. 42. In Ps. 42, it talks of his soul despairing or being disturbed within him. I can relate. And Ps. 131 says: O LORD, *thou art not proud, nor my eyes haughty; Nor do I involve myself in great matters; Or in things too difficult for me. Surely I have composed and quired my soul; Like a weaned child rests against his mother. My soul is like a weaned child within me. O Israel, hope in the LORD. From this time forth and forever.* So clearly hope (or the lack thereof) has something to do with all this. As does cursing the soul — how do you nurse your soul?

Share this:

- [Facebook](#)
- [Twitter](#)
- [LinkedIn](#)
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### [Giant Grumblemuffin](#)

07 Thursday Oct 2010

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [my spiritual journey](#), [spiritual truths](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

There's a character in a C.S. Lewis book called *Giant Grumblemuffin*. I think that name appropriately fits me lately. . .

The Bible teaches us that we will be asked to take up something hard every day: *If anyone wishes to follow Me, he must deny himself, take up his cross daily, and follow Me.* (Lk. 9:23). Even in the midst of our greatest freedom, answered prayer, or dream come true, we can expect to face something hard. Just as the Hebrews did within days of being freed from Pharaoh's control. Within a couple days, they were faced with no water, no bread, and no meat.

And what did they do? They grumbled against Moses. And what did Moses do? He made clear to them that they're grumbling wasn't against *him*, but against *God*. (Exod. 16:8). After all, it was God who controlled their circumstances.

And it's God who controls mine. But I often find myself in the same position as the Hebrews. Whether oppressed or freed, living in want or living in abundance, I'm so prone to complain about the hard thing I have to face today. And when I do, I complain against my God.

But God can't be any less good to me today than He was to me on Good Friday, 2,000 years ago, when He died for my sin. His goodness isn't a fleeting attitude (today I feel like being good!), but it's an immutable attribute. He's good because that's who He is. Which means that I can trust where He has me now, the good, the bad, the easy, and the hard. No good thing will He withhold from me. And what looks good now might not ultimately be best for me.

I've noticed that my complaining has moved from my lips and taken up even greater residence in my heart. So now begins the quest to purge complaining from my heart — that I would be content in all things, just as Paul was.

Share this:

- [Facebook](#)
- [Twitter](#)
- [LinkedIn](#)
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### [Joseph Updates](#)

07 Thursday Oct 2010

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [kid stories](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

Joseph is just shy of his first birthday!!

In the past couple weeks, he has started scooching (fast, but still not a crawl) and clapping. He has two new teeth (the front two). And when Button and Siah started making "Indian noises," he quickly initiated them by tapping the back of his head over his mouth and saying, "wa wa wa wa." We ALL thought that was so cute!

Share this:

- [Facebook](#)
- [Twitter](#)
- [LinkedIn](#)
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

Search:

### [Follow Blog](#)

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 904 other followers

### [Recent Posts](#)

- [Being Blind and Carrying Gas Keyes](#)
- [More: relationships...](#)
- [Another Open Letter to President Obama](#)
- [You Can't Make This Up](#)
- [Button's Take on Birth Control](#)

### [Archives](#)

- [October 2013](#)
- [September 2013](#)
- [August 2013](#)
- [June 2013](#)
- [May 2013](#)
- [April 2013](#)
- [March 2013](#)
- [February 2013](#)
- [January 2013](#)
- [December 2012](#)
- [November 2012](#)
- [October 2012](#)
- [September 2012](#)
- [August 2012](#)
- [July 2012](#)
- [June 2012](#)
- [May 2012](#)
- [April 2012](#)
- [March 2012](#)
- [January 2012](#)
- [December 2011](#)
- [November 2011](#)
- [October 2011](#)
- [September 2011](#)
- [August 2011](#)
- [July 2011](#)
- [April 2011](#)
- [March 2011](#)
- [February 2011](#)
- [January 2011](#)
- [December 2010](#)
- [November 2010](#)
- [October 2010](#)
- [September 2010](#)
- [August 2010](#)
- [July 2010](#)
- [June 2010](#)
- [May 2010](#)
- [April 2010](#)
- [March 2010](#)
- [February 2010](#)
- [January 2010](#)
- [December 2009](#)
- [November 2009](#)
- [October 2009](#)
- [September 2009](#)
- [August 2009](#)
- [July 2009](#)
- [June 2009](#)
- [May 2009](#)
- [March 2009](#)
- [February 2009](#)
- [January 2009](#)
- [December 2008](#)
- [November 2008](#)
- [October 2008](#)
- [September 2008](#)
- [August 2008](#)
- [July 2008](#)
- [June 2008](#)
- [May 2008](#)
- [April 2008](#)
- [March 2008](#)
- [February 2008](#)
- [January 2008](#)
- [December 2007](#)
- [November 2007](#)
- [October 2007](#)
- [September 2007](#)
- [August 2007](#)
- [July 2007](#)
- [June 2007](#)
- [May 2007](#)
- [April 2007](#)
- [March 2007](#)
- [February 2007](#)
- [January 2007](#)

### [Categories](#)

Select Category

Blog at [WordPress.com](#). [The Chateau Theme](#).

[Follow](#)

Follow "Kelly Tshibaka"

Get every new post delivered to your inbox.

Join 904 other followers

[Sign me up](#)

Powered by [WordPress.com](#).

%d bloggers like this:



- [About](#)
- [Resources](#)
- [Speaking](#)

## [Kelly Tshibaka](#)

### ~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional

Search:



## Resources

### Publications

[The Problem with the Problem with Women in Ministry Leadership](#)

### Other Writings and Handouts

[Bible Study on Reconciliation](#)

[Praying in the Spirit \(Tongues\)](#)

### Audio

[Spirital Gifts in 1 Cor. 12](#) (Double Click on "Manifestation Gifts" Series)

### Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

### Like this:

Like Loading...

### 1 thought on "Resources"

1. Kelly Leith said:

[September 16, 2013 at 4:11 pm](#)

Is there a cd or article when Pastor Debbie spoke at your church? I would love to have a copy if possible!! Thank you so much

Sincerely,

Kelly Leith

[Reply](#)

### Leave a Reply

(Address never made public)

☐ Notify me of follow-up comments via email.

☐ Notify me of new posts via email.

Search:

## Follow Blog

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 904 other followers

## Recent Posts

- [Being Blind and Carrying Car Keys](#)
- [More relationship...](#)
- [Another Open Letter to President Obama](#)
- [You Can't Make This Up](#)
- [Burton's Take on Birth Control](#)

## Archives

- [October 2013](#)
- [September 2013](#)
- [August 2013](#)
- [June 2013](#)
- [May 2013](#)
- [April 2013](#)
- [March 2013](#)
- [February 2013](#)
- [January 2013](#)
- [December 2012](#)
- [November 2012](#)
- [October 2012](#)
- [September 2012](#)
- [August 2012](#)
- [July 2012](#)
- [June 2012](#)
- [May 2012](#)
- [April 2012](#)
- [March 2012](#)
- [January 2012](#)
- [December 2011](#)
- [November 2011](#)
- [October 2011](#)
- [September 2011](#)
- [August 2011](#)
- [July 2011](#)
- [April 2011](#)
- [March 2011](#)
- [February 2011](#)
- [January 2011](#)
- [December 2010](#)
- [November 2010](#)
- [October 2010](#)
- [September 2010](#)
- [August 2010](#)
- [July 2010](#)
- [June 2010](#)
- [May 2010](#)
- [April 2010](#)
- [March 2010](#)
- [February 2010](#)
- [January 2010](#)
- [December 2009](#)
- [November 2009](#)
- [October 2009](#)
- [September 2009](#)
- [August 2009](#)
- [July 2009](#)
- [June 2009](#)
- [May 2009](#)
- [March 2009](#)
- [February 2009](#)
- [January 2009](#)
- [December 2008](#)
- [November 2008](#)
- [October 2008](#)
- [September 2008](#)
- [August 2008](#)
- [July 2008](#)
- [June 2008](#)
- [May 2008](#)
- [April 2008](#)
- [March 2008](#)
- [February 2008](#)
- [January 2008](#)
- [December 2007](#)
- [November 2007](#)
- [October 2007](#)
- [September 2007](#)
- [August 2007](#)
- [July 2007](#)
- [June 2007](#)
- [May 2007](#)
- [April 2007](#)
- [March 2007](#)
- [February 2007](#)
- [January 2007](#)

## Categories

Select Category ▾

[Blog at WordPress.com](#). [The Chateau Theme](#).

[Follow](#)

### Follow "Kelly Tshibaka"

Get every new post delivered to your Inbox.

Join 904 other followers

Powered by [WordPress.com](#)

%d bloggers like this:



- [About](#)
- [Resources](#)
- [Speaking](#)

## Kelly Tshibaka

### ~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional

Search:



## Monthly Archives: January 2008

### 7 Years

28 Monday Jan 2008

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [marriage](#), [personal](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

Niki and I have been married 7 years today. AMAZING! It's weird, but it seems both like we haven't been married that long and like we've been married a lot longer than that at the same time.

In a lot of ways, our marriage is fresh, exciting, and new. We have both changed a lot. In the last 7 years — in great ways that I never could have predicted. We've also set out on new adventures together — in the last 4 years we've had 2 kids, bought a house, made 3 job changes between us, started a church, and begun adopting a third child. We've also made some incredible life-long friends together, found new favorite vacation spots, and made some unforgettable memories.

In other ways, it seems like we've been together going on 20 years! We've shared a lot of life together and worked through a lot of problems together. In our first 2 years alone, we experienced enough conflict and stress to last us for 15 years! We've been on top of the world together and we've been close to quitting, too. From temper tantrums (me), to Lysoal wars (laughing so hard I couldn't breathe), to nearly getting arrested ("nearly" being operative...), we've truly lived. It's only taken 7 years to write, but our story is a rich one. As Niki said last night, we've had our hard times, but all of our times have been wonderful.

If life is a dance, then we've spent our fair share of time stepping on each other's toes. But now it's like we've found our step, we're in sync, and we're moving really well together. I anticipate there will be hard times ahead, but I look forward to one day tearing up the dance floor together like interbag champions!

*To my true companion- I like your moves, baby.*

#### Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

#### Like this:

Like Loading...

### A little bit about Button and Cutie Pie

25 Friday Jan 2008

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [adoption](#), [kid stories](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

Button (3-year-old girl) is effervescent, gregarious, quick-witted, affectionate, adventurous, service-oriented, confident, bold, and truly joyful. She's a great mix of a "girly girl," liking all things "princess" and pink, and an athletically-oriented competitor (she likes to run fast, pitch, play soccer, and swim). She also enjoys Dora, "homework," watching videos, going to the movies, going shopping, and having "campouts" with friends and with her grandparents.

Cutie Pie (18-month-old boy) is focused, introverted, determined, and playful. He is both musically gifted and passionate. He has a strong sense of right and wrong and confidently administers justice whenever he can. He has a contagious laugh and loves to play pranks on me. He enjoys eating; playing the guitar, drums, and piano; singing; playing with anything electronic; climbing; running; watching Baby Einstein; and playing with trucks and trains. He's also quite attached to his panda bear ("Pa-wah") and froggie ("Roggie").

Button knows of our intention to adopt, and she has been enthusiastic about adopting an orphan since we first started discussing it. She is excited about being a big sister to someone who doesn't have a big sister, and sharing her toys with him/her because she "has lots of them." She talks about teaching our adopted child things, tickling him/her, and loving him/her. When we talk about how we're going to bring an orphan home who does not have a family, she responds confusedly, "Yes they do! You're their mommy and daddy. And I'm their sister!" Sometimes at night when she says her prayers, she asks Jesus to take care of the orphan who is coming to stay with us "for all of the days."

#### Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

#### Like this:

Like Loading...

### MLK Hero

24 Thursday Jan 2008

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [my spiritual journey](#), [spiritual truths](#), [stories from a pioneer church](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

This past Christmas, our fellowship purchased and gave gifts to a family of 3 orphan girls in our area. I met the oldest girl (an 11 year old) when she came to our house to pick up the presents with one of our fellowship members.

Later, for Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, the girl's class was asked to write down the name of one person who was a hero to them, like Martin Luther King was — a person who they admired, looked up to, or otherwise thought of as a hero. The girl wrote down my name.

When I learned this, I was humbled (who am I that this girl would think of me as a hero?) and amazed (that God used something as small as our fellowship getting a couple presents for these children to affect this girl's life so deeply).

And then I was struck by this: what this girl saw in me that touched her so deeply was not me, but was *Christ* within me — it was Jesus who led us to take up the cause of the orphan, Jesus who brought these girls literally to our doorstep, and Jesus who inspired our fellowship to give them Christmas presents. One of my constant prayers is that people would not see me, but see Christ when they look at me (His love, His glory, etc.), and that happened here. How amazing! The girl may have written "Kelly" as her hero, but it really read "Jesus." Praise be to you, Lord!

#### Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

#### Like this:

Like Loading...

### MOVIE OF THE YEAR: VEGGIE TALES

22 Tuesday Jan 2008

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [general](#), [recommendations](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

In my opinion, *Veggie Tales: The Pirates Who Don't Do Anything* is the movie of the year! It was as profound spiritually as it was appealing to people of all ages. Its plot, jokes, and music were enjoyable, entertaining, and clean, but I was especially amazed by the depth, truth, and application of its Christian message.

Not too long ago, Big Idea Productions — the company that makes Veggie Tales — announced that it had decided to take over Christian themes, statements, and references out of most of its media to avoid bankruptcy. The idea was that by removing all things Christian, Veggie Tales would have a wider audience, which would build a fan base that would in turn wash the overly Christian media.

As a Veggie Tales fan for at least 10 years, I was sad that Big Idea needed to go this route. The thing I loved about Veggie Tales the most was the incredible spiritual insight packed into every show. So I went into Pirates skeptical about how spiritually valuable it would be — it might be entertaining for the kids, but probably wouldn't be a DVD I would buy. I doubted it would have much more in the way of spiritual truth than general "be nice, do good" messages.

How wrong I was! This movie was *Crash-ike* in its nuances and connections. I could watch it over and over again and learn something new each time! It contained material for a year of sermons! One Christian who saw the movie with me commented afterwards, "Wow! I feel like I've been at church!"

For example, the three Veggie pirates represent 3 different types of Christians who struggle with living out God's purpose for their lives (to be heroes) because of fear, laziness, or defeatism. We also watched the spiritual laws of temptation (what it is, how it works, how we give in to it, how it destroys us, and how we can be freed from it) play out in the life of one of these pirates.

In addition, the movie covered multiple other spiritual topics, including (but not limited to):

- Our relationship to God
- God's purpose for us
- The work of the Holy Spirit in our lives
- The power of faith
- Facing fear and overcoming it
- God's preparation of us
- Tests we face
- God's guidance and direction for us
- God's provision for us
- God's love for us and the sacrifices He has made for us
- Satan's motivations
  - Satan's *modus operandi*
  - The spiritual battle we face daily, often unaware
  - Believing in who God says we are rather than who the world says we are
- God's protection of us
- The difficulties and challenges of doing God's work
- The trap of wanting all the glory of being heroes without having to do any of the hard work

I suspect this movie series could be the *Chronicles of Narnia* for this generation — though the literary contribution (if a movie could even be considered literary) cannot compare, this movie meets kids where they are at — it contains rich Christian syllogism while still being accessible to and easily understood by a generation that is so used to operating in a sound byte culture that it has difficulty comprehending the nuances of the *Chronicles* (compare the number of youth who see this Veggie Tales movie to those who saw *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe*).

In short, this movie was amazing, amazing, amazing. I can't wait to see it again.

#### Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

#### Like this:

Like Loading...

### Wish I Was Far-Sighted

22 Tuesday Jan 2008

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [my spiritual journey](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

*But in keeping with his promise we are looking forward to a new heaven and a new earth, the home of righteousness.*  
*2 Peter 3:13*

7 years ago, I had lasik eye surgery. I used to be extremely near-sighted (could see things up close really well, but had a hard time seeing anything further than a couple feet from me). But after the surgery, I have better than 20/20 vision — I even sometimes see things I shouldn't be able to see: like *millions* of particles in the air. It's crazy and super cool at the same time.

I wish I could have lasik to adjust my spiritual vision. Rather than being focused on all the discouragement, pain, and hopelessness going on just "a few feet" around me, I wish I could only focus on eternity. I would go about my day functioning in the present, but focused on the future — the promise of a new heaven and new earth where there will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain (Rev. 21:4).

I try to keep an eternal perspective, but it's a challenge. I frequently have it, but not as often as I'd like. It's like before I had lasik when I would squint to see things far away — by squinting throughout the day, I was able to get by. But it was nothing compared to the freedom and empowerment I have now because I can see far away all the time! Imagine how spiritually free and empowered I would be if I had a perpetual eternal perspective? That would be totally cool.

#### Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

#### Like this:

Like Loading...

### Constitutional Flaw in the Pro-Choice Cases

16 Wednesday Jan 2008

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [my other day job](#), [women's topics](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

In effect, the Supreme Court's rulings in the pro-choice cases have given greater constitutional protection of reproductive rights to women than to men, which inherently violates its holdings in the Equal Protection cases.

Reproduction either is or isn't a constitutional right — it cannot be a constitutional right for one gender but not the other. In the same way that free speech can't be a constitutional right for one gender, or one race, etc. and not others.

#### Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

#### Like this:

Like Loading...

### Daddy's "Candy cane"

14 Monday Jan 2008

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [His mysterious ways](#), [kid stories](#), [raising kids](#), [spiritual truths](#), [stories from a pioneer church](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

Yesterday at dinner after church, Button picked up a piece of shredded cheese that looked like a shepherd's staff (even with the hook at the end of the arch) and started laughing:

"Look, Momzmy! It's daddy's candy cane! Mommy! Remember when daddy had his big candy cane? That was SO FUNNY!" she laughed.

Of course, Niki and I never saw a big candy cane. "Oh, yeah, Button? When did you see daddy's candy cane? Where was it?"

She responded as if I was intentionally trying to be silly. "Mommy! His candy cane was on top of his head!!! Wasn't it funny?" And then she indicated she had seen it earlier that day.

When Button first mentioned Niki's "candy cane," it was a year ago, shortly after he began pastoring our church. She drew a large shepherd's staff in his hand in a picture she made. Biblically, "shepherding" is the illustration/analogy used for "pastoring." And "pastors" are often referred to as "shepherds." Button has talked about seeing Niki's "candy cane" a couple times since then, including last night.

I believe Button has a spiritual gift of being able to see things in the supernatural that others cannot see. And I believe that when she sees Niki's "candy cane," she's seeing his spiritual mantle and gift of pastoring. God vests children with spiritual gifts in the same way that he vests adults, and these "candy cane" comments are evidence of one of Button's spiritual gifts.

I gotta say, this isn't the only time she's identified something that I couldn't see and she's been proven right. I take what she says very seriously...

#### Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

#### Like this:

Like Loading...

### My Jesus Dream

11 Friday Jan 2008

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [deep thoughts](#), [my spiritual journey](#), [spiritual truths](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

I've never had a Jesus dream before. But I had one the other night.

My dreams for the night were winding to an end — all the activity and people who had been in my dreams had departed, and I was left alone at nighttime near the shore of a large body of water doing something task-oriented.

I saw a light on the water, but didn't think much of it. It slowly, but steadily came closer and closer to me until I could see that it wasn't a boat or buoy, but a man walking on the water, radiant. I recognized instantly that it was Jesus and ran to meet him.

I threw my arms around him, hugging him and sobbing uncontrollably. "I missed you so much!" I cried. I felt like a wife who was reunited with her true love who had been gone to war for years and with whom she had been unable to have any contact. I desperately wanted Jesus to say something to me, but he didn't. He just hugged me, so lovingly and so tightly.

Even though the Lord didn't speak to me in the dream, the message of the dream was unmistakable: I have missed out on an "ever-present" intimate relationship with the Lord — one that is promised to me and that I can have. It wasn't a condemning message, but a hopeful one: my true love never left for war but is standing behind me. Rather than save the letters, photos, and memorabilia for his return and stay true to his memory while he is gone, all I need to do is turn around.

I realized that I have been living my relationship with Jesus in many respects as though I am grieving, separated from him until I pass until eternity. While I have had his word (Bible), other followers, and intermittent promptings and revelations to guide and sustain me, I've been lacking the very literal *person-a* relationship with Jesus. He's not a memory to honor, but a living person to love now.

This insidious deception has sneakily penetrated all aspects of my spiritual journey and robbed me of joy that I am entitled to (a fox in my vineyard!). One of the things I'm focusing on now is cultivating an ever-present, personal relationship with Jesus so that I can experience him "bugging" me every day in the same, powerful way that I experienced it in my dream.

#### Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

#### Like this:

Like Loading...

### God Spoke Through My Boss

10 Thursday Jan 2008

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [my other day job](#), [my spiritual journey](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

In re-aligning my heart attitude towards my boss, the Lord brought to mind something I did a few months ago.

In my performance review, my boss gave me a scripture in response to a concern I raised about my heavy workload: *They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk without being tired. Isa. 40:31* I responded with what I now realize was a despicably proud and haughty heart. I thought, "Yeah. I know the verse." I categorically dismissed it as a nice, but inapplicable cliché that didn't apply to me. In my haughtiness, I forgot that any Bible verse is applicable to me and is of God, not of the person who said it.

Since then, I have encountered that verse — and the entire chapter that it is in — over and over. I recognized it as a word for me from the Lord, even though I had forgotten that my boss mentioned it weeks before. Until I let Him search my heart. And that's when I remembered. And I realized that He had used my boss (not a pastor, not someone else in ministry...) to pass on His word for me. It was reminded that God promises to work through those whom He places in authority over us, and I can trust Him in that.

#### Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

#### Like this:

Like Loading...

### Gonna Be Trouble

07 Monday Jan 2008

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [kid stories](#)

≈ [1 Comment](#)

Niki was getting Button ready for bed the other night. "Daddy, I'm gonna marry Ian," she said.

Slightly perturbed by more marriage talk, Niki responded, "What if that doesn't happen, Button? What if you don't get married? What if Ian doesn't want to marry you?"

Without missing a beat, she said, "Well, then there's gonna be trouble ... And Ian's not marrying anybody."

#### Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

#### Like this:

Like Loading...

#### Follow Blog

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 904 other followers

### Recent Posts

- [Being Blind and Carrying Car Keys](#)
- [More relationships...](#)
- [Answer Open Letter to President Obama](#)
- [You Can't Make This Up](#)
- [Burton's Take on Birth Control](#)

### Archives

October 2013

September 2013

August 2013

June 2013

May 2013

April 2013

March 2013

February 2013

January 2013

December 2012

November 2012

October 2012

September 2012

August 2012

July 2012

June 2012

May 2012

April 2012

March 2012

January 2012

December 2011

November 2011

October 2011

September 2011

August 2011

July 2011

April 2011

March 2011

February 2011

January 2011

December 2010

November 2010

October 2010

September 2010

August 2010

July 2010

June 2010

May 2010

April 2010

March 2010

February 2010

January 2009

December 2009

November 2009

October 2009

September 2009

August 2009

July 2009

June 2009

May 2009

March 2009

February 2009

January 2009

December 2008

November 2008

October 2008

September 2008

August 2008

July 2008

June 2008

May 2008

April 2008

March 2008

February 2008

January 2008

December 2007

November 2007

October 2007

September 2007

August 2007

July 2007

June 2007

May 2007

April 2007

March 2007

February 2007

January 2007

### Categories

Select Category

[Blog at WordPress.com - The Chateau Theme.](#)

[Follow](#)

### Follow "Kelly Tshibaka"

Get every new post delivered to your inbox.



[DONATE](#)


<http://pinterest.com/pin/create/button/?url=http%3A%2F>

Latest

Show All

**Hrm.**

The Wayback Machine has not archived that URL.

**This page is available on the web!**

Help make the Wayback Machine more complete!

[Save this url in the Wayback Machine](#)

Click here to search for all archived pages under  
<http://pinterest.com/pin/create/button/>.



The Wayback Machine is an initiative of the Internet Archive, a 501(c)(3) non-profit building a digital library of Internet sites and other cultural artifacts in digital form. Other projects include Open Library & archive-it.org.

Your use of the Wayback Machine is subject to the Internet Archive's [Terms of Use](#)

- [Resources](#)
- [Speaking](#)

## Kelly Tshibaka

### ~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional

Search:



## Monthly Archives: *December 2012*

### Reflections on 2012

31 Monday Dec 2012

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [Uncategorized](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

2012 was a year of liberation. Like when God brought the Israelites out of Egypt. New beginnings, fulfilled promises, as well as the costs and challenges that come with it.

2012 was the year I went back to work for the organization that accused, attacked, persecuted me. I had other options, but that one was the best. And the fact is, it wasn't the organization. It was certain people. But God said He would vindicate and protect me. This year I got to learn how to trust Him at His Word. Though there were times I battled a lot of fear, I made it. Though those people continued to come after me from different sides, He was faithful. And the office I work for now has been really great. He brought me out of a bad place and put me in a place of promise. This year, I saw the goodness of the Lord. This year He gave me justice.

2012 was the year of the hardest pregnancy I've ever had. It was unlike every other pregnancy. Just when I thought it couldn't get any worse, it did. From extreme nausea, to having to wear my foot in a boot because of an odd nerve reaction, to ridiculously painful and debilitating joint problems, to months of early onset contractions, to bed rest, it was just unbelievable. I was able to keep a positive attitude, and not develop grumpiness towards my baby despite my health challenges. Huge victory there. And then right before birth, I prayed for the impossible — a labor and delivery that did not result in any complications and was pain free. And that's what He gave me! I love that our God is the god of the impossible — with Him, all things are possible. Including delivering a 9 lb. baby pain free! He freed me from the painful pregnancy, restored my health completely, and gave me a beautiful baby.

2012 was the last year we lived in our first house. He brought us out of our house, with a profit and not a loss. Even though the buyers have been nothing short of unkind, unkind, and greedy. God has provided, helped us, and freed us. Freedom/liberation comes with a cost. Like the Israelites, we thought we were free of the house, and then these people just keep chasing us down. It has taken a lot of emotional energy out of us. And it's been hard to not take up offenses, be rattled with anger, or act vengefully. I'm learning to trust that the God who set this whole thing in motion will work all of this ick out. If we keep our conscience clear and do all we can to glorify Him in our every step.

2012 was the year of displacement. Due to a series of unfortunate circumstances, we found ourselves without a place of our own. If you will, living in temporary housing, it's an opportunity to learn that our home isn't actually here on earth anyway. No matter where we lay our head, we're not really "home."

2012 we were blessed exceedingly by the generosity and kindness of our respective families this year. They helped us and gifted us enormously, including making it possible for us to go on vacations with them. We also saw friends we haven't seen in a long time, filling places in our heart we didn't know were empty. We deepened relationships with other friends who are so dear to us. And we said goodbye to some friends, too. These that have moved away, or moved away emotionally. Deep sadness. It's always hard for me to say goodbye. I think part of me holds them in my heart forever.

2012 our church grew in spiritual maturity. We saw baptisms, liberations, prophecies, and a fresh outpouring of the Spirit. We saw sacrificial serving, loving community, genuine reconciliation, and miracles. The people of our church have loved big and made a huge difference in the lives of others. Totally delighted.

And, above all things, 2012 was the year of Justice. An answer to a long awaited prayer. A miracle, a gift from God, a treasure who brings me so much joy. And we named him Justice as a testimony for what God has done for us — to praise Him for the justice He has given us.

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### Justice's First Word?

30 Sunday Dec 2012

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [kid stories](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

Tags

[Parenting](#)

I think Justice said his first word! I had him nuzzled up against my shoulder when he sneezed. A great big goopy bunch of snot came out, and, because he still can't lift or control his head well, his face landed right in it. He laid there for a second before remarking, in the cutest little voice, "Ew!" Niki and I laughed so hard!

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### I Saw My Ex-Boyfriend

28 Friday Dec 2012

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [personal](#)

≈ [2 Comments](#)

Right there in the middle of Disney World, a family was walking towards me with A&M shirts on. I thought about stopping to say Howdy (that's what we Aggies do), but just as I was about to, I did a double take. Is that my ex-boyfriend? My FIRST boyfriend? [GASP] That IS my ex-boyfriend!

That's him in his crew cut, jacked biceps, and proud chin. And that's the girl he dated after me — the one who gave him what he wanted (and what I wouldn't), the one he married. And there are his two children—super cute kids.

I wanted to say howdy, but then where does that conversation go? Hll... I'm the girl you dated for two weeks freshman year, like 15 years ago. Remember? Oh, you don't? Probably because it was just two weeks for you. But you know what it was for me? My first major rejection from a guy. My first heartbreak. My first time of wondering whether I should sacrifice my purity and my values for the affection of a man. Thankfully, you didn't give me that choice...you coldly dumped me at a party before I could make that choice. But I always wondered if you would have loved me if I did give you what you wanted? Because I know your cute little wife there did...and you put a ring on her finger...after the fact.

How many times I've wondered what it would be like to see him again. And now here's my chance! What would I say? What did I want him to know? That I was doing great, was (still) prettier than his wife, was successful, had cuter children than him? While all of that might be true, I know he'd never agree with me about my children being cuter... And what was the purpose of stating the obvious? Make him feel bad? I didn't want that.

Did I want him to regret breaking up with me? Regret letting me go simply because I wouldn't "go any further"? No, I didn't want that. Regretting ending our relationship would simply mean problems in his marriage.

Did I want to reconnect, share a laugh, thank him for his military service, be "friends" on Facebook? No, I didn't want that. I'm totally not interested in staying in touch with a guy I knew for a second 15ish years ago.

In fact, as I sat there watching him lift his little girl up to give her a piggy back ride, I realized that he wasn't as bad of a guy as I'd let myself believe. While he wanted something I wouldn't give, that I thought was typical for 18 year old guys. So he went and got it somewhere else—predictable. But then he also married that girl—a girl he started dating freshman year of college (not typical). They're still married (also not typical), and he has served our country for over a decade. All told, with the hindsight of 15 years, he seems like a pretty good guy who actually is prone to commitment and selflessness, rather than gigolo-ing self-centeredness like I thought.

So what do I really want for him? I want him and his family to be blessed. I want their marriage to be strong. For him to be safe when he's deployed. I want his kids to have a great relationship with him. I want things to go well for them. And none of these things would be furthered by me stopping to talk to them here in the middle of their family vacation.

As I passed by in anonymity, I thought of Niki and smiled. How grateful I am that I was spared a relationship that would have cost me so much and instead given a husband who gives me so much.

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### Complainers in the Church

26 Wednesday Dec 2012

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [Church, ministry](#)

≈ [2 Comments](#)

Tags

[Pastoring](#)

What can you/do you do with the person who is dissatisfied with a situation but refuses to do anything about it?

You can love and counsel and support, and you can offer opportunities to do something, but you can't want it more than they do. There's going to be a lot of "stuck" people to whom you'll minister. After all, Jesus came for them (to seek and save the lost). I'm surprised how simply consistently loving these people, over time, helps them out of their stuckness and into freedom. Stay with it.

But there might be a time in that process when you have to say "I don't have anything else to offer you. You're perpetually dissatisfied but persistently committed to doing nothing about it." Or to let them know that you don't have the right to complain if they're not going to do anything about it. Always say hard things in love, but sometimes hard things need to be said.

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### We Don't Have a Megachurch; We Have Megapeople!

24 Monday Dec 2012

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [Church, deep thoughts, funny, leadership, ministry, stories from a pioneer church](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

Tags

[Pastoring](#)

I think the answer is it depends on your style — how has God called you to preach, who has He made you to be, and then what does He want to happen with this specific sermon? For example, there are times when the leading is to preach through a text (e.g., Philippians). Other times, it's to share what the Lord is teaching you recently. So you tell the testimony and weave scripture in. Or it might be to teach on a topic (e.g., love, forgiveness, etc.) and so you work through a core passage and do a bunch of research to supplement the topic. There's a lot of different approaches.

Some people will tell you there's a certain "right" way to do it. But I think the "right" way is the way Jesus tells you to do it. Some of us are story tellers (like me). Some are text-based analysts (like Niki). If you're looking for some guidance on how to preach — the technical aspects of it, I recommend Van Cleave's *Handbook on Preaching*. But I think the best advice simply is to be in the Word and then share/teach what God's doing freshly in your life. Fresh fruit is always better than canned fruit. Share what He's doing in your life/teaching you rather than what He's done in others or taught other people.

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### How to Prep for a Sermon

22 Saturday Dec 2012

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [Church, ministry, recommendations](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

Tags

[Faith, Pastoring](#)

I got this question recently: "When you are preparing for a sermon, do you get the scripture and then do a bunch of research to "supplement" your sermon or do you try and tell a great story with the scripture or do you just go off what you feel the Lord is saying?"

I think the answer is it depends on your style — how has God called you to preach, who has He made you to be, and then what does He want to happen with this specific sermon? For example, there are times when the leading is to preach through a text (e.g., Philippians). Other times, it's to share what the Lord is teaching you recently. So you tell the testimony and weave scripture in. Or it might be to teach on a topic (e.g., love, forgiveness, etc.) and so you work through a core passage and do a bunch of research to supplement the topic. There's a lot of different approaches.

Some people will tell you there's a certain "right" way to do it. But I think the "right" way is the way Jesus tells you to do it. Some of us are story tellers (like me). Some are text-based analysts (like Niki). If you're looking for some guidance on how to preach — the technical aspects of it, I recommend Van Cleave's *Handbook on Preaching*. But I think the best advice simply is to be in the Word and then share/teach what God's doing freshly in your life. Fresh fruit is always better than canned fruit. Share what He's doing in your life/teaching you rather than what He's done in others or taught other people.

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### Nana's Old

20 Thursday Dec 2012

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [kid stories](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

Tags

[Parenting](#)

Slah explaining to Button why she was swinging higher than Nana: "See, Sis, Nana is old and she's not doing that good on swings."



Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### Other Things That Amaze Me About Joseph

18 Tuesday Dec 2012

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [kid stories](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

I was giving Justice a bath in Nana's wash room. Joseph was watching and "helping." He was standing on a stool right in between the mending station and the sink.

He looked over at Nana's collection of mending items and points out a dimble. "Mama, what's that?"

"It's a thimble."

"Why?"

"It's for putting your finger so that when you're mending something with a needle and thread, you don't accidentally stick your finger with a needle."

He thinks about it for a second and responds, "No, Mama, it's for Monopoly."

I laughed! "That's right Jo-fish. It's also used as a Monopoly game piece."

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### Spiritual Principles from the Hobbit

16 Sunday Dec 2012

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [deep thoughts, spiritual truths](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

Tags

[Faith, Pastoring](#)

The Truth pervades culture. All things were made in Him, through Him, and for Him. So you can anticipate finding His fingerprints woven through the stories of our lives, woven in our culture, woven even in the movies we see. Especially in movies like the Hobbit, which are based on stories written by Christians.

Many things stood out to me in the Hobbit, but these made distinct impressions:

- The Dwarf King "did not forgive what he did not forget." Ouch. We hear the axiom "I forgive, but I don't forget" often in our individualistic, revenge-centric culture. How many times have I gone through the motions of forgiving only to nurse the memory of the offense? What hit me in this simple statement is that you can't really forgive what you choose not to forget. It's not that you will forget the offense, but when you do you just go through the effort of keeping the memory of the offense alive, you are, *de facto*, refusing to forgive it.

- Bilbo Baggins became terribly comfortable in his complacency, despite the invitation to partner with Gandalf and the dwarfs in a great adventure. "When did dolbles and your mother's dishes become so important to you?" Gandalf challenged him. Ouch again! You could replace "dolbles" and "mother's dishes" for a whole host of things that are objects (idols?) of complacency for us: "free time," "weekends," "television," "electronics," "sleep," "nice cars," "clothes," and even "job." It's not too hard to imagine Jesus asking us one day, "why didn't you tell your neighbor about Me and my love for him?", or "why didn't you take in an orphan?", or "why didn't you shepherd my people?" How hollow it would sound to respond, "I needed my free time, Lord."

- Finally, I "love" when Gandalf rebuked the dwarfs who were doubting Baggins' value to the team (or body of Christ, as the analogy was intended): "Baggins has a great deal more to offer than any of you know, including himself!" Bam! That's it! That's how a discipler thinks about those s/he is discipling — they see more in the disciple than the disciple sees in himself. And they are persistent in their love, hope and efforts to direct the disciple towards that vision. Baggins refused to join the adventure and stayed behind, but when he changed his mind and joined the team/body, Gandalf says "I never doubted you." Love that. Disciples love their disciples: Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things."

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### As Close to Hell as I'm Gonna Get: How I'm Thinking About the Newtown Shootings

15 Saturday Dec 2012

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [Uncategorized](#)

≈ [1 Comment](#)

I hear the stories. I see their faces. I look at my own kids, hold them, imagine what could happen to them at any moment. Life snuffed out before it ever really began. I'm spending a Saturday Family Day with my kids, what did those families have planned with their kids today? All I wanna do is cry.

Where is the joy? How do you be happy (really happy) in the midst of so much heartache? *Newton, Sandy, movie theater massacre, Libya, Jessica Ridgeway...* God, how are you filled with joy when you know in advance of these things? *This is the day that the Lord has made; I will rejoice and be glad in it.* Without something more behind it, this sounds like an empty platitude.

I know why God lets bad things happen. I've even blogged on it: <http://kellytshibaka.com/2007/11/06/where-did-evil-come-from>. But it doesn't change that my heart seems hopelessly despaired when confronted with these evils.

*In the morning you will have troubles, but take heart, for I have overcome the world.* The truth is that given the fallen (sin-ridden) nature of mankind and the world, tragedy should actually be the norm. Every moment we have of goodness, grace, beatitude, blessing is essentially a miracle. It is the taste of redemption in a world that already has gone to hell in a hand basket. The Bible makes clear that Satan is the ruler of this world — for now, it's his. I guess it's equally valid to wonder *why good happens* as it is to wonder *why evil does*...

The only reason every day isn't marked with death and despair is because of God's love and redeeming power. He was grieved over our plight even more than we were... so much so that He sent His only son, Jesus, to pay the price and take our plight away.

For those who put their faith in Him, we can live in some of our ransomed freedom now. But we are like missionaries here on earth, or behind enemy lines, if you will. This world belongs to Satan. It only takes that tipping on the tv right now to see that. We won't get to experience the fullness of His redemptive plan until the world passes and we enter eternity. So until then, we will have trouble.

In the meantime, I want to focus on being a force for His redemptive power. To love, serve and help people amidst tragedy, crisis, and brokenheartedness. Because the truth is, this is as close to hell as I'm gonna get. And by God's grace, may it be as close to hell as any of us get.

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

— Older posts

Search:

### Follow Blog

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 904 other followers

### Recent Posts

- [Being Blind and Carrying Cat Keys](#)
- [More related...](#)
- [Another Open Letter to President Obama](#)
- [You Can't Make This Up](#)
- [Bum's Take on Birth Control](#)

### Archives

- [October 2013](#)
- [September 2013](#)
- [August 2013](#)
- [June 2013](#)
- [May 2013](#)
- [April 2013](#)
- [March 2013](#)
- [February 2013](#)
- [January 2013](#)
- [December 2012](#)
- [November 2012](#)
- [October 2012](#)
- [September 2012](#)
- [August 2012](#)
- [July 2012](#)
- [June 2012](#)
- [May 2012](#)
- [April 2012](#)
- [March 2012](#)
- [January 2012](#)
- [December 2011](#)
- [November 2011](#)
- [October 2011](#)
- [September 2011](#)
- [August 2011](#)
- [July 2011](#)
- [June 2011](#)
- [May 2011](#)
- [April 2011](#)
- [March 2011](#)
- [February 2011](#)
- [January 2011](#)
- [December 2010](#)
- [November 2010](#)
- [October 2010](#)
- [September 2010](#)
- [August 2010](#)
- [July 2010](#)
- [June 2010](#)
- [May 2010](#)
- [April 2010](#)
- [March 2010](#)
- [February 2010](#)
- [January 2010](#)
- [December 2009](#)
- [November 2009](#)
- [October 2009](#)
- [September 2009](#)
- [August 2009](#)
- [July 2009](#)
- [June 2009](#)
- [May 2009](#)
- [March 2009](#)
- [February 2009](#)
- [January 2009](#)
- [December 2008](#)
- [November 2008](#)
- [October 2008](#)
- [September 2008](#)
- [August 2008](#)
- [July 2008](#)
- [June 2008](#)
- [May 2008](#)
- [April 2008](#)
- [March 2008](#)
- [February 2008](#)
- [January 2008](#)
- [December 2007](#)
- [November 2007](#)
- [October 2007](#)
- [September 2007](#)
- [August 2007](#)
- [July 2007](#)
- [June 2007](#)
- [May 2007](#)
- [April 2007](#)
- [March 2007](#)
- [February 2007](#)
- [January 2007](#)

### Categories

Select Category

[Blog at WordPress.com - The Chateau Theme](#)

[Follow](#)

Follow "Kelly Tshibaka"

Get every new post delivered to your inbox.

Join 904 other followers

Powered by [WordPress.com](#)

%d bloggers like this:

- [About](#)
- [Resources](#)
- [Speaking](#)

## Kelly Tshibaka

### ~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional

Search:



## Monthly Archives: August 2009

### Shield of Faith (Reflections from Dennis)

29 Saturday Aug 2009

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [spiritual truths](#)

[~ Leave a Comment](#)

*Ephesians 6:16 – Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked.*

The shield of faith is a vital part of the believer's armor. You are to put on the "whole armor of God" because the Christian life is warfare – a spiritual conflict. As Paul names the different parts of the Christian's armor. He comes to the shield and emphasizes its importance by saying, "Above all, taking the shield of faith..." – for with the shield of faith, nothing can hurt you; you are more than conquerors through Him. (Rom 8:37)

The importance of faith is seen in the following:

- You cannot be saved without faith (John 3:36)
- You cannot live victoriously over the world without faith (1 John 5:4)
- You cannot please God without faith (Heb 11:6)
- You cannot pray without faith (Jas 1:6)
- You cannot have peace with God without faith (Rom 5:1)
- You cannot have joy without faith (1 Pet 1:8)
- You are justified by faith and not by works (Gal. 2:16)
- You are to live by faith (Gal 2:20)
- You are made righteous by faith (Rom. 10:1-4)
- Christ dwells in your heart by faith (Eph 3:17)
- The Holy Spirit is received by faith (Gal 3:2)
- Whosoever is not of faith is sin (Rom 14:23)

Faith is important because it honors God, and God always honors faith.

Share this:

- [Facebook](#)
- [Twitter](#)
- [LinkedIn](#)
- [Google+](#)
- [Pinterest](#)
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### How to Be a Smart Protege

27 Thursday Aug 2009

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [my other day job](#), [women's topics](#)

[~ Leave a Comment](#)

I recently asked my boss if she'd be more than my boss – if she'd also mentor me. She was enthusiastic about it and asked me a very helpful feedback. She also passed on an article from the Wall Street Journal that gave 8 tips for setting up a network of mentors. She said it made her think of me. : D

Here are the 8 tips (so true!):

1. Take the initiative to strike up and maintain relationships with mentors. Talk first, and often! Ask for information, help, feedback, and advice.
2. Recognize and respond to even subtle expressions of interest from would-be mentors. Read between the lines. Look for potential to take a relationship deeper.
3. Reach beyond immediate peers and bosses to others in the community and environment.
4. Make sure you have frequent contact with each of the mentors. Be intentional about getting together regularly and in a venue where you can talk privately and informally.
5. Prepare for meetings with your mentors and let them know how their advice has helped you. Keep note of challenges you want to discuss, and research the topic thoroughly so you can give your mentor several approaches to review. Then followup with mentors after a discussion.
6. Lend your mentors a hand when you can on projects they're handling. Make the relationship mutual. Offer what you can to help them out.
7. Be open with mentors about the challenges you're facing.
8. Do your best to be positive and personable. Ask for help, be easy to get along with, empathize with others, listen to people, and build rapport.

Share this:

- [Facebook](#)
- [Twitter](#)
- [LinkedIn](#)
- [Google+](#)
- [Pinterest](#)
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### Siah's Birthday

21 Friday Aug 2009

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [kid stories](#), [raising kids](#)

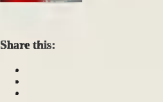
[~ Leave a Comment](#)

The morning of Siah's birthday, I woke him up around 5:45 am. "Siah?" He peered at me through one eye. He HATES getting up early. "Siah?" He closed his eyes and frowned. I told him this was a special day – he was 3 years old! And he could have a choice – either he could sleep in until daddy woke him up for daycare, or he could get up with me and we could go to McDonalds for breakfast before daycare started! Well, he hopped out of bed like he'd been up for hours, ran into Sister's room, flipped on her light (much to her chagrin), and shouted, "Sisuh, sisuh! I'm twee years old and we're going to McDONALDS!"

And off we went – before dawn and everything. Here's a picture of them outside – she's happy and he's showing all of us how old he is.



Then that night after work, we went out to eat as a family, and Siah got to pick the place. It was a tough call between Chili's and TG1 Fridays (he doesn't like fast food like most kids, I guess). In the end he picked Fridays. The wait staff came out and sang him happy birthday. He was so excited, but also embarrassed, and he hid his face behind Niki's arm. Here's photos of him hiding, then eating the ice cream.



And here's our big Twee-year-old! Happy Birthday, Siah!



Share this:

- [Facebook](#)
- [Twitter](#)
- [LinkedIn](#)
- [Google+](#)
- [Pinterest](#)
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### Hair Day!

19 Wednesday Aug 2009

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [Uncategorized](#)

[~ 2 Comments](#)

Yesterday, I got my hair done. I mean, I got it DONE! Here's a little bit of the background on all this -

First, I LOVE my hair stylist, Fred. He runs Colors Progressive Salon on Capitol Hill in DC (202-543-1963). I've been having my hair "done" for 20 years. And by "done" I mean foil weave highlighted, cut, and styled. It's a labor of love, for sure. And in 20 years, Fred is hands down without a doubt the BEST hair stylist I've had. Like, in the world. One friend of mine used to schedule her visits to see me based on when she was due to be "done" just so she could go to Fred, too. Smart!

Second, one of my "things" is to grow my hair out and then donate it to Locks of Love – an organization that takes hair donations and makes them into wigs for cancer patients (most of the recipients are kids). It takes me about 2-3 years to do this (you must send at least 10 inches of hair), but it's something that's important to me. I believe my hair is a crown of glory from the Lord (Ibn's what the good book says!) and I believe in giving from what He has given me. Plus, I like long hair, I'm blessed with a lot of it, and it's so rewarding to help others in this way.

So, yesterday was the big day!!! I've been waiting for a year for this (the last year is always the most challenging). It was so exhilarating to get my hair cut, but also a bit heart-palpitating! Feeling those scissors cut off all that hair! All these months of time! I was excited about it, but scold!!! I couldn't help but think of Samson when his enemies cut off his hair and robbed him completely of all his God-given strength – his hair must have died at that moment. Mine only paused.

Ah, but then the sweetness of my new do! I love it! Here are the pictures:

BEFORE



AFTER (what you see is all that is there; and this is FRED!!!!)



Share this:

- [Facebook](#)
- [Twitter](#)
- [LinkedIn](#)
- [Google+](#)
- [Pinterest](#)
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### Scripture to Note

17 Monday Aug 2009

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [Bible study](#)

[~ Leave a Comment](#)

Revelation 2:18-25 (NLT):

18 "Write this letter to the angel of the church in Thyatira. This is the message from the Son of God, whose eyes are like flames of fire, whose feet are like polished bronze:

19 "I know all the things you do. I have seen your love, your faith, your service, and your patient endurance. And I can see your constant improvement in all these things. 20 "But I have this complaint against you. You are permitting that woman—that Jezebel who calls herself a prophet—to lead my servants astray. She teaches them to commit sexual sin and to eat food offered to idols.

21 "I gave her time to repent, but she does not want to turn away from her immorality. 22 "Therefore, I will throw her on a bed of suffering, and those who commit adultery with her will suffer, greatly unless they repent and turn away from her evil deeds. 23 I will strike her children dead. Then all the churches will know that I am the one who searches out the thoughts and intentions of every person. And I will give to each of you whatever you deserve. 24 "But I also have a message for the rest of you in Thyatira who have not followed this false teaching ('deeper truths,' as they call them—depths of Satan, actually). I will ask nothing more of you 25 except that you hold tightly to what you have until I come.

Share this:

- [Facebook](#)
- [Twitter](#)
- [LinkedIn](#)
- [Google+](#)
- [Pinterest](#)
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### Takeaways from Pastor Matt Chandler in Highland Village, TX

15 Saturday Aug 2009

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [Church](#), [ministry](#)

[~ Leave a Comment](#)

- We can't standardize the sanctification process. Churches like programs, but God works differently in each person.
- Sins aren't things you do; sin is about who you are.
- Spiritual quick fixes are unhelpful.
- It's okay not to be okay, but it's not okay to stay there.
- A process that is organic but controlled is effective – take the relational elements of organic and put them into the structure of a system. For example – a 5-week series on a topic that is explored deeper in small groups, children's church, and family devotionals is structured; other seasons are not so structured.
- Discipleship means more than studying a book together. It means opening our lives to the people we are leading.
- Mentoring cannot be programmatic. It must be relational. Help the patriarchs of the church understand the value of these relationships and then set them free to fish for people in the church with whom they connect naturally.

- There is a strong victim mentality in mid to young generations. It's spiritual laziness. They will agree that God is sovereign over all, but then say, "Well, I wish he would sovereignly take away my last issue." There's not a lot of fortitude or fight in them.
- Sinners people are meant to wrestle with their sin a long time before God brings them to freedom, but let's wrestle. Let's fight.
- Perhaps he was trying to please the people?
- We want people to think beyond simply what is right and wrong. We want them to fill their lives with things that stir their affections for Jesus Christ and, as best as they can, to walk away from those things that rob those affections – even when they're not immoral.

- What's been missing in the church: transcendence. True encounters with the living God rather than a religion of moral control.
- Keep your heart lean, stripped down, and program-free. That encourages people to be out in the community rather than dependent on the church.
- Church buildings teach people. How they're set up, challenges with them, work it takes to maintain them – all of it teaches people.
- The people who win their friends to Christ are the ones who baptize them.

Share this:

- [Facebook](#)
- [Twitter](#)
- [LinkedIn](#)
- [Google+](#)
- [Pinterest](#)
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### What God Expects

15 Saturday Aug 2009

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [my spiritual journey](#), [spiritual truths](#)

[~ Leave a Comment](#)

God does not expect me to be perfect; He expects me to be humble.

He doesn't expect me to be a perfect mom; He expects me to be a humble mom.

He doesn't expect me to be a perfect wife; He expects me to be a humble wife.

He doesn't expect me to be a perfect employee; He expects me to be a humble employee.

He doesn't expect me to be a perfect pastor; He expects me to be a humble pastor.

He doesn't expect me to be a perfect Christian; He expects me to be a humble Christian.

Share this:

- [Facebook](#)
- [Twitter](#)
- [LinkedIn](#)
- [Google+](#)
- [Pinterest](#)
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### Reflections on our Church Mission

14 Friday Aug 2009

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [Church](#), [deep thoughts](#), [spiritual truths](#), [stories from a pioneer church](#)

[~ Leave a Comment](#)

(Reflections taken from Matt and Evan's testimony about how they were changed by being part of our church and going through the "love, liberate, lead, launch" process):

Love expressed isn't convenient (see the story in Mark 5:30 about the woman with the issue of bleeding)

Liberate goes past the obvious need to the condition of the heart – to the issues within that only God can get to

Leadership requires sacrifice and discomfortability. In leading, take only the tools necessary, like when Jesus sent out the disciples (He told them to take a staff). The rewards of leadership are great.

Share this:

- [Facebook](#)
- [Twitter](#)
- [LinkedIn](#)
- [Google+](#)
- [Pinterest](#)
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### Why Did Saul Disobey?

14 Friday Aug 2009

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [Bible study](#), [spiritual truths](#)

[~ Leave a Comment](#)

1 Samuel 15 – one of those baffling parts of scripture.

In this chapter, Saul, king of Israel, chosen and anointed by God, goes to battle against Amalek. God had directed him to do so, and also directed him to utterly destroy everything – people, things, animals, and king Agag – all of it.

Saul went to battle and was victorious, but he didn't destroy everything. He spared king Agag, the best of the sheep, oxen, fatlings lambs, some of the spoil, and all that was good. So, as Burton would say, "Now here's a difficult question for you:" Why didn't Saul do what God had said?

When the prophet Samuel confronted Saul, Saul blamed the people (always a mark of a weak leader) and said they did it: "to sacrifice to the Lord your God at Gilgal." (side note, why didn't he say the Lord our God?)

So why did Saul disobey God?

- Perhaps he was doing his will in God's name?
- Perhaps he wanted to look godly by his actions? The people were the best things to God. Perhaps this was an appearance thing?
- Perhaps he was trying to please the people?
- Perhaps he was more incentivized to follow the rules (standard was to offer sacrifices from war spoils) than to follow a relationship with God (and the exception He gave in this particular instance)?

Whatever the reason(s) was, we can see ourselves in Saul's motivation and way of thinking as well. Sometimes we do our will in God's name (being driven rather than called). Sometimes we do things for appearance sake which don't line up with what God has said. Sometimes we are driven by a fear of man or desire to please people. Sometimes we pick rules over relationship with our heavenly father.

The story of Saul goes on and the consequences of this decision affect the Israelites for generations to come. We fast forward to the book of Esther and see that the man who planned and nearly implemented a complete holocaust of the Jews was Haman, an Agagite – in other words, a descendant of king Agag. But for Esther's decision to face death in the eyes, the Jews would not have survived Haman's holocaust. The near annihilation of Saul's people was a direct consequence of Saul's disobedience to God and refusal to destroy everything in the battle with the Amalekites, including king Agag.

And like Saul, our actions also have consequences far beyond ourselves.

Share this:

- [Facebook](#)
- [Twitter](#)
- [LinkedIn](#)
- [Google+](#)
- [Pinterest](#)
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### Note from Woman in Fellowship

13 Thursday Aug 2009

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [Notes for Pastor's Wife](#)

[~ 1 Comment](#)

Hi Kelly,

I wanted to thank you for all you've (you, Niki, and the church) done for me, especially over the past year. I'm not exactly sure what others were talking about when they said that they've noticed a difference in me, but I know that I do feel a bit different. And I know that much of my change is attributable to the love and liberation I've received through this church. Of course, God is behind it all. But you have been so instrumental in what he's been doing in my life. I hope you know this, and I hope you know how much I appreciate it!!!

Share this:

- [Facebook](#)
- [Twitter](#)
- [LinkedIn](#)
- [Google+](#)
- [Pinterest](#)
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

~ Older posts

Search:

### Follow Blog

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 904 other followers

### Recent Posts

- [Being Blind and Carrying Car Keys](#)
- [More relationships...](#)
- [Another Open Letter to President Obama](#)
- [You Can't Make This Up](#)
- [Baron's Take on Birth Control](#)

### Archives

- [October 2013](#)
- [September 2013](#)
- [August 2013](#)
- [June 2013](#)
- [May 2013](#)
- [April 2013](#)
- [March 2013](#)
- [February 2013](#)
- [January 2013](#)
- [December 2012](#)
- [November 2012](#)
- [October 2012](#)
- [September 2012](#)
- [August 2012](#)
- [July 2012](#)
- [June 2012](#)
- [May 2012](#)
- [April 2012](#)
- [March 2012](#)
- [January 2012](#)
- [December 2011](#)
- [November 2011](#)
- [October 2011](#)
- [September 2011](#)
- [August 2011](#)
- [July 2011](#)
- [April 2011](#)
- [March 2011](#)
- [February 2011](#)
- [January 2011](#)
- [December 2010](#)
- [November 2010](#)
- [October 2010](#)
- [September 2010](#)
- [August 2010](#)
- [July 2010](#)
- [June 2010](#)
- [May 2010](#)
- [April 2010](#)
- [March 2010](#)
- [February 2010](#)
- [January 2010](#)
- [December 2009](#)
- [November 2009](#)
- [October 2009](#)
- [September 2009](#)
- [August 2009](#)
- [July 2009](#)
- [June 2009](#)
- [May 2009](#)
- [March 2009](#)
- [February 2009](#)
- [January 2009](#)
- [December 2008](#)
- [November 2008](#)
- [October 2008](#)
- [September 2008](#)
- [August 2008](#)
- [July 2008](#)
- [June 2008](#)
- [May 2008](#)
- [April 2008](#)
- [March 2008](#)
- [February 2008](#)
- [January 2008](#)
- [December 2007](#)
- [November 2007](#)
- [October 2007](#)
- [September 2007](#)
- [August 2007](#)
- [July 2007](#)
- [June 2007](#)
- [May 2007](#)
- [April 2007](#)
- [March 2007](#)
- [February 2007](#)
- [January 2007](#)

### Categories

Select Category

Blog at WordPress.com: The Chateau Theme.

Follow

Follow "Kelly Tshibaka"

Get every new post delivered to your inbox.

Join 904 other followers

### Recent Posts

- [Being Blind and Carrying Car Keys](#)
- [More relationships...](#)
- [Another Open Letter to President Obama](#)
- [You Can't Make This Up](#)
- [Baron's Take on Birth Control](#)

### Archives

- [October 2013](#)
- [September 2013](#)
- [August 2013](#)
- [June 2013](#)
- [May 2013](#)
- [April 2013](#)
- [March 2013](#)
- [February 2013](#)
- [January 2013](#)
- [December 2012](#)
- [November 2012](#)
- [October 2012](#)
- [September 2012](#)
- [August 2012](#)
- [July 2012](#)
- [June 2012](#)
- [May 2012](#)
- [April 2012](#)
- [March 2012](#)
- [January 2012](#)
- [December 2011](#)
- [November 2011](#)
- [October 2011](#)
- [September 2011](#)
- [August 2011](#)
- [July 2011](#)
- [April 2011](#)
- [March 2011](#)
- [February 2011](#)
- [January 2011](#)
- [December 2010](#)
- [November 2010](#)
- [October 2010](#)
- [September 2010](#)
- [August 2010](#)
- [July 2010](#)
- [June 2010](#)
- [May 2010](#)
- [April 2010](#)
- [March 2010](#)
- [February 2010](#)
- [January 2010](#)
- [December 2009](#)
- [November 2009](#)
- [October 2009](#)
- [September 2009](#)
- [August 2009](#)
- [July 2009](#)
- [June 2009](#)
- [May 2009](#)
- [March 2009](#)
- [February 2009](#)
- [January 2009](#)
- [December 2008](#)
- [November 2008](#)
- [October 2008](#)
- [September 2008](#)
- [August 2008](#)
- [July 2008](#)
- [June 2008](#)
- [May 2008](#)
- [April 2008](#)
- [March 2008](#)
- [February 2008](#)
- [January 2008](#)
- [December 2007](#)
- [November 2007](#)
- [October 2007](#)
- [September 2007](#)
- [August 2007](#)
- [July 2007](#)
- [June 2007](#)
- [May 2007](#)
- [April 2007](#)
- [March 2007](#)
- [February 2007](#)
- [January 2007](#)

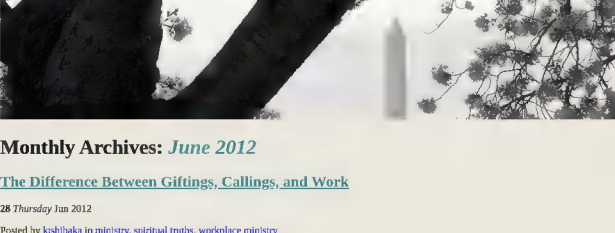


- [About](#)
- [Resources](#)
- [Speaking](#)

## Kelly Tshibaka

### ~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional

Search:  |



## Monthly Archives: *June 2012*

### [The Difference Between Giftings, Callings, and Work](#)

28 Thursday Jun 2012

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [ministry, spiritual truths, workplace ministry](#)

≈ [1 Comment](#)

**I feel right now I am doing things that “I am good at” but they are not what “I want”. Does that mean I want something which is not my gift? Can I desire to do something which is not my gift?**

You probably have more than one gift. While you are good at what you’re doing, it’s not the desire of your heart. Whatever you desire to do most likely is something God has put in you, equipped you for, and gifted you to do.

I can do a lot of things well, but that doesn’t mean those are my calling or purposes from God. The more I function in my areas of gifting, the better I perform. And when I couple my giftings with my calling, I soar. That’s how it’s supposed to feel-like soaring. Not just that you’re doing a good job, but that you love, thrive on, and are fulfilled by what you’re doing.

For example, I’m gifted at speaking. I speak in my job and it’s good, fun, and better than other things I have to do. But when I speak in a ministry context, I am re-energized, charged, and the best version of me that I can be. So there’s things I’m gifted in, and things I’m called to, and when the two come together — wow! And if I could get paid for them—that would be the unbeatable perfect scenario!

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

Like this:

Like Loading...

### [What God Thinks About Work](#)

26 Tuesday Jun 2012

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [spiritual truths, workplace ministry](#)

≈ [1 Comment](#)

**What’s His perspective of work? Is it simply meant to feed us or does it have a higher meaning? Can work and your “calling” be the same thing?**

Work is a blessing, it gives us purpose, direction, a sense of accomplishment, and a way of helping others. Work existed before the fall (when sin entered the world), but it became hard after the fall.

Sometimes our jobs are primarily a source of income (God’s provision), but the people we encounter are divinely-ordained. You are a light in the lives of everyone He brings across your path.

Sometimes our jobs are also our calling, when we get paid to do what God has created us to do. That’s not the case with most people. Instead our calling is lived out in who we are, wherever we are, whatever we’re doing. On vacation, at home, at church, at work, at the movies — we be who we’re supposed to be wherever we are. And in this, His purposes for us and through us are accomplished.

**Can I desire a raise and promotion at work? Or do I have to find a righteous reason for it in order to ask God for a raise or promotion?**

Yes, you can want promotions and raises! And no, you don’t have to find a “righteous” reason. Not that it would matter if you did — God examines and knows our hearts. We can’t hide from Him what we really think or feel.

Wanting more favor, provision, influence — those are fine, if your heart is right. Wanting them so someone else doesn’t get them (jealousy) or because you want what someone else has (coveting) or for evil instead of good isn’t going to get you too far with God...

But it’s fine — good, actually — to want to do more, be more, be better, be rewarded. These are God-given desires. And when God-focused people are in positions of influence, abundance, and authority, the world is a better place.

*Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and He will raise you up (exalt you, lift you). James 4:10*

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

Like this:

Like Loading...

21 Thursday Jun 2012

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [His mysterious ways, spiritual truths, stories from a pioneer church](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

*An encouraging email from someone in our church, along with rich spiritual insight about obedience and rest. I love getting to be a part of people’s spiritual lives!*

How cool was church on Sunday??!! Right!!!

I don’t know that I can say I’ve enjoyed one of Niki’s sermons more than Sunday. It was so captivating...VERY moving for me.

I have been studying Hebrews a lot lately (and obedience). I wrote in my devotional that we learn obedience from what we suffer...we know that. That is a hard one to accept, but the more I read, the more I started to see the “cycle of rest”...obedience comes from suffering...it’s hard to have faith when you think you are suffering...but obedience and faith lead us to God’s rest, to the promise land. But even in the promise land, we need to “enter God’s rest” and so the cycle continues much like condensation/evaporation...faith + obedience = rest. I personally can’t endure the the obedience/faith part without having had the rest.

**This last weekend was so average, but yet it was somehow profoundly life altering.** I’m excited to see what God is doing with me, with you two, with our church body and with the Church. Change is coming, I feel it!

I love you both! Thanks so much for serving!!!

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

Like this:

Like Loading...

### [How to Keep Kids Studying During the Summer](#)

18 Monday Jun 2012

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [raising kids](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

We’re going to try this for the first time — having the kids stay at home, occupying them with a mix of educational and fun activities. Fun activities will include going to the pool, going to the sprinkler park, playing outside, hitting the museums in DC, and going to the library (all of which are free). Niki’s also considering taking them to the movies and a massive trampoline park. There’s a great obstacle course set up around pirate ships at the National Harbor, too.

Then there’s the educational piece. We came up with a list of educational activities for each kid to complete every week. They include an assortment of Bible reading and journaling, journaling on topics, creative writing, reading 10-15 books, completing reading worksheets or book reports on the books, working through test prep books, practicing piano, drilling math flashcards (addition, subtraction, or multiplication), learning states, capitals, and state abbreviations, cursive writing, math worksheets, write a fiction book, draw a map, research and write a report on historical figure, create a poster about a historical figure, and draw a self-portrait.

Here’s an example of a weekly breakdown:

Assignment	Completed	Checked/Notes
Read Mark 1-2		
Journal on Mark 1-2		
Journal on Hope and Dreams for Third Grade		
Read book #1		
Writing Worksheet/Book Report on book #1		
Fun book pages (at least 10)		
Practice Piano 15 minutes		
Practice Piano 15 minutes		
Practice Piano 15 minutes		
Multiplication Flashcards (memorize 10 of them)		
States/Capitals Worksheet		
3 Cursive Handwriting Sheets		
Optional:		
Read Book #2		
Drawing		
Spanish Flashcards		
Trism		

My goal is that at the end of this summer, the kids have a head start on understanding the material and concepts of the next grade. I want them to stay academically disciplined while also learning new things, practicing sports, and resting.

We’ll see how it goes!

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

Like this:

Like Loading...

### [Father’s Day Sunday School Crafts](#)

14 Thursday Jun 2012

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [discipling, ministry, raising kids, stories from a pioneer church](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

This Sunday for Father’s Day, I’ll be teaching the kids about what it means to “honor your father and mother” (the 5th Commandment). We’ll read scripture, have a discussion, review the coloring and summary page, and complete a card craft that gives 10 reasons why the child honors his/her father.

Here’s the inside of the card (to be completed by each child). And then we’ll fold the card in half and have the kids decorate the outside of the card.

Top 10 Reasons I Honor My Dad (2012)	
10. I honor my dad because he reads _____.	
9. I honor my dad because he works _____.	
8. I honor my dad because he’s good at: _____.	
7. I honor my dad because he takes care of _____.	
6. I honor my dad because he’s strong when _____.	
5. I honor my dad because he protects _____.	
6. I honor my dad because he helps _____.	
5. I honor my dad because he makes me laugh when _____.	
4. I honor my dad because he makes sure _____.	
3. I honor my dad because he finds time to _____.	
2. I honor my dad because he’s the best _____.	
1. I honor my dad because _____.	

And here’s the lesson plan and take home activity sheet:

#### THIS WEEK I LEARNED...

This week we learned what it means to honor our father from Exodus 20:12 and Ephesians 6:1-4.

**MEMORY VERSE:** “Honor your father and mother so that you’ll live a long time...” Exodus 20:12

#### FAMILY DISCUSSION:

What are some ways to honor your father?

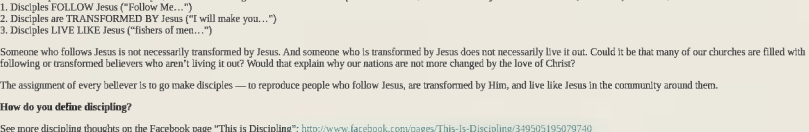
Why should you listen to and obey your dad?

How can you please God in the way you treat your father?

How is your father like God, your heavenly Father? How are they different?

#### FUN IDEAS FOR THE KIDS:

- Spend time with your dad this week.
- Ask him about his day at work.
- Notice the things he does for you and thank him for it.



Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

Like this:

Like Loading...

### [Funny Face Kids](#)

13 Wednesday Jun 2012

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [kid stories](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

Sanja relayed this story about yesterday morning with the kids:

All three are sitting at the table, nicely eating their breakfasts before school. Button, in an act of wit (she is a very funny girl), holds up a piece of toast to her face, masking her completely, and says, “Nothing but a piece of toast sitting over here!”

Slah, thinking that was so funny, then sticks some toast on his forehead — kind of getting it, but not really.

Then Jo-Fish, following suit, takes his *entire* breakfast and smears it all over his face!

Oh, their personalities!

Sanja thought it showed their respective developments in humor. But somehow I suspect Jo-Fish will still be smearing food on his face 5 years from now ... :)

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

Like this:

Like Loading...

### [Defining “Disciple”](#)

05 Tuesday Jun 2012

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [discipling](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

It’s impossible to “go, make disciples” unless you understand what a “disciple” is. What, exactly, are we in the business of making?

A disciple is not a student, mentee, or fan club member. In contrast to these following-type relationships, the measure of a disciple is derived more from their relationship with Jesus than their relationship to the discipler.

We use a 3-part definition for a disciple, taken from the original call to the first disciples: “Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men.” (Matt. 4:19) From this, we see that:

1. Disciples FOLLOW Jesus (“Follow Me...”)
2. Disciples are TRANSFORMED BY Jesus (“I will make you...”)
3. Disciples LIVE LIKE Jesus (“fishers of men...”)

Someone who follows Jesus is not necessarily transformed by Jesus. And someone who is transformed by Jesus does not necessarily live it out. Could it be that many of our churches are filled with following or transformed believers who aren’t living it out? Would that explain why our nations are not more changed by the love of Christ?

The assignment of every believer is to go make disciples — to reproduce people who follow Jesus, are transformed by Him, and live like Jesus in the community around them.

**How do you define discipling?**

See more discipling thoughts on the Facebook page “This is Discipling”: <http://www.facebook.com/pages/This-Is-Discipling/349505195079740>

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

Like this:

Like Loading...

### [Follow Blog](#)

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 904 other followers

### Recent Posts

- [Being Blind and Carrying Car Keys](#)
- [More Relationship...](#)
- [Another Open Letter to President Obama](#)
- [You Can't Make This Up](#)
- [Button's Take on Birth Control](#)

### Archives

- [October 2013](#)
- [September 2013](#)
- [August 2013](#)
- [June 2013](#)
- [May 2013](#)
- [April 2013](#)
- [March 2013](#)
- [February 2013](#)
- [January 2013](#)
- [December 2012](#)
- [November 2012](#)
- [October 2012](#)
- [September 2012](#)
- [August 2012](#)
- [July 2012](#)
- [June 2012](#)
- [May 2012](#)
- [April 2012](#)
- [March 2012](#)
- [January 2012](#)
- [December 2011](#)
- [November 2011](#)
- [October 2011](#)
- [September 2011](#)
- [August 2011](#)
- [July 2011](#)
- [April 2011](#)
- [March 2011](#)
- [February 2011](#)
- [January 2011](#)
- [December 2010](#)
- [November 2010](#)
- [October 2010](#)
- [September 2010](#)
- [August 2010](#)
- [July 2010](#)
- [June 2010](#)
- [May 2010](#)
- [April 2010](#)
- [March 2010](#)
- [February 2010](#)
- [January 2010](#)
- [December 2009](#)
- [November 2009](#)
- [October 2009](#)
- [September 2009](#)
- [August 2009](#)
- [July 2009](#)
- [June 2009](#)
- [May 2009](#)
- [March 2009](#)
- [February 2009](#)
- [January 2009](#)
- [December 2008](#)
- [November 2008](#)
- [October 2008](#)
- [September 2008](#)
- [August 2008](#)
- [July 2008](#)
- [June 2008](#)
- [May 2008](#)
- [April 2008](#)
- [March 2008](#)
- [February 2008](#)
- [January 2008](#)
- [December 2007](#)
- [November 2007](#)
- [October 2007](#)
- [September 2007](#)
- [August 2007](#)
- [July 2007](#)
- [June 2007](#)
- [May 2007](#)
- [April 2007](#)
- [March 2007](#)
- [February 2007](#)
- [January 2007](#)

### Categories

Select Category

[Blog at WordPress.com.](#) [The Chateau Theme.](#)

[Follow](#)

Follow “Kelly Tshibaka”

Get every new post delivered to your Inbox.

Join 904 other followers

Powered by [WordPress.com](#)

%d bloggers like this:

- [About](#)
- [Resource](#)
- [Speaking](#)

## Kelly Tshibaka

### ~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional

Search:



## Monthly Archives: *September 2008*

### [Are We Agreed?](#)

27 Saturday Sep 2008

Posted by [kushibaka](#) in [kid stories](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

We had the most spectacular time at Disney World – and this vacation was quite likely the best family vacation we have ever had. The kids knew it, too.

As we were leaving Disney, Button was so distraught. “I don’t WANT to leave, Mama!”

“I know, Button. But we have to.”

“WHY??”

“Well, because I don’t have enough money to stay.”

“Why DON’T you have enough money?”

“Well, that’s a complicated question,” as I thought about 401ks, college savings, taxes, and the death of our economy this week (may she rest in peace).

Button paused. “But Mama! This is the PERFECT place! AND it has a pool! Are we agreed???”

My mom looked at me and laughed – “Well, you can’t argue with that!”

#### Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

#### Like this:

Like Loading...

### [Blog Going Private](#)

26 Friday Sep 2008

Posted by [kushibaka](#) in [general](#)

≈ [1 Comment](#)

Readers and Friends -

This blog will go private soon for a variety of reasons. If you’re interested in continuing to follow it, please email me or leave your email address in the comments to this entry.

Thanks!

#### Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

#### Like this:

Like Loading...

### [Who Button Is Going to Marry](#)

25 Thursday Sep 2008

Posted by [kushibaka](#) in [kid stories](#), [raising kids](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

Button was asking me about marriage – who she was going to marry. This was prompted in part from a discussion about the Disney princesses and the princes they married.

“Who am I going to marry, Mama?”

“I don’t know, Button.”

“Well, what’s his name, Mama?”

“I don’t know his name, Button. But I’ll tell you what I do know. He will be very nice, and he will take good care of you. He will love Jesus very much. He will love you very much, and you will have fun together. And he will love me, and Daddy, and Siah, too. And we will love him. He will become part of our family.”

Her eyes lit up. “Who is he, Mama???”

“I don’t know, Button. You get to pick who you’re going to marry.”

She smiled full-dimpled and exclaimed, “I’m going to marry PAPA!!!”

[At this point I took the opportunity to explain the critical caveat that she can’t marry someone who already is married. Once someone chooses to marry someone else, they’re unavailable. This is an important lesson for women to learn - and the earlier this can get instilled, the better!]

#### Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

#### Like this:

Like Loading...

### [Papa Can Do Anything](#)

25 Thursday Sep 2008

Posted by [kushibaka](#) in [kid stories](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

Button was asking me if she could have a camp out with her friends outside in her tent. Then she recalled that her tent was broken. I told her she could have a camp out someday (like next spring, when it warms up...), but she couldn’t use her tent because it was broken.

She responded, “Oh! I know, Mama! Papa (my dad) can fix my tent. He can do *anything*! When he comes to visit me at Nana and Kaku’s, he can fix my tent then! Then we can have a camp out outside at night!”

It’s nice to know that she recognizes Papa’s amazing gifts, even at this age, and that she has the same impression of him that I’ve had my whole life.

#### Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

#### Like this:

Like Loading...

### [Back from Vacation!](#)

25 Thursday Sep 2008

Posted by [kushibaka](#) in [general](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

I had such a wonderful time in Florida and Disney World! But I really missed blogging – funny, isn’t it? I have so many stories and musings that I want to capture in this blog before I forget them! So here it goes...

#### Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

#### Like this:

Like Loading...

### [Drive to Disney](#)

13 Saturday Sep 2008

Posted by [kushibaka](#) in [personal](#), [raising kids](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

Yesterday at 6pm the kids and I left for Disney. Packed up the minivan and headed out. We took a long way so we could pick up Niki at Foursquare’s Crosspointe Conference Center in Christiansburg, VA. We arrived there around 1030 at night, said hi to some friends who he had been at a conference with, used the restroom, and hit the road again.

Niki drove the hard part – 11pm to 330am. And I drove the rest. The kids were amazing!!! The traffic was great and we made good time. And it was long – I have a new appreciation for how long the nighttimes are, and consequently, how much time God gives us for rest each day. And I also now know what they mean by “it’s always darkest right before dawn.” How true!

We arrived at our dear friends’ house, Neha and Kent, at 8am. We were tired, but had the most fun and relaxing day swimming, eating great food, dancing, re-living memories, going to the park, and napping. The best part about meeting up with close friends is jumping right into deep relationship and talks that encourage, build up, create memories, and warm the soul. It was the perfect end to a great drive!

#### Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

#### Like this:

Like Loading...

### [The Word: Blessingaling](#)

11 Thursday Sep 2008

Posted by [kushibaka](#) in [word](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

Blessingaling: a seemingly small but incredibly powerful blessing; a blessing with “bling.”

Like the songs written by Dawn and Shelley that go straight to my heart and minister to me when I need it the most – a blessingaling.

Like Siah’s contagious, effervescent laughter when I blow on his tummy – a blessingaling.

Like a Bible verse or word from the Lord that speaks to my innermost being – a blessingaling.

#### Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

#### Like this:

Like Loading...

### [The Word: Snarky](#)

10 Wednesday Sep 2008

Posted by [kushibaka](#) in [word](#)

≈ [2 Comments](#)

[Entries where I will spotlight certain words - those you may not know but need to; those I love; those that are unique to me; or just random words, in general.]

**Snarky (snar-ke); adj.:** snappish, annoying, sarcastic, impertinent, or irreverent in tone or manner. Generally obnoxious.

Like the comment the boss makes about how you’re not dedicated to the mission when you leave on time: *snarky*.

Like the comment the woman made about my poor parenting skills because of Button’s excessive tan: *snarky*. (I retorted by telling her, “She’s part black.”)

Like the behavior exhibited by most bureaucrats: *snarky*.

#### Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

#### Like this:

Like Loading...

### [Maybe Not](#)

09 Tuesday Sep 2008

Posted by [kushibaka](#) in [kid stories](#), [raising kids](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

Button’s developed quite a mind of her own, lately. I encourage it, but it’s a bit of a challenge. Independent thinking always is, isn’t it?

Recently she’s been convinced she knows exactly where we’re going and how to get there, regardless of the destination. So she’s really gotten into backseat driving, sometimes giving me a hard time for miles because I’m going the “wrong way.”

Any and all the other day we were driving somewhere. And Button quipped, “Turn right, Mommy! Turn right, here!”

Niki and I ignored her, which has been our primary tactic to discourage the backseat driving.

After I blew past the road she wanted me to turn on, she said to herself, “Or . . . maybe not.”

Niki and I could hardly contain ourselves – we were laughing so hard!!!

#### Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

#### Like this:

Like Loading...

### [More Than Mommy](#)

09 Tuesday Sep 2008

Posted by [kushibaka](#) in [kid stories](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

The other day, I said to Niki (in front of Button), “I love you, Daddy.” Button chimed in right away, “I love you, TOO, Daddy . . . More than Mommy!”

Later I told him he better watch himself. I will not be replaced by an adorable 4-year-old who is vying for his heart. She’s cuter, she’s sweeter, but I’m the wife.

#### Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

#### Like this:

Like Loading...

← Older posts

Search:

### Follow Blog

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 904 other followers

### Recent Posts

- [Being Blind and Carrying Car Keys](#)
- [Marechaladosh...](#)
- [Another Open Letter to President Obama](#)
- [You Can't Make This Up](#)
- [Button's Take on Birth Control](#)

### Archives

- [October 2013](#)
- [September 2013](#)
- [August 2013](#)
- [June 2013](#)
- [May 2013](#)
- [April 2013](#)
- [March 2013](#)
- [February 2013](#)
- [January 2013](#)
- [December 2012](#)
- [November 2012](#)
- [October 2012](#)
- [September 2012](#)
- [August 2012](#)
- [July 2012](#)
- [June 2012](#)
- [May 2012](#)
- [April 2012](#)
- [March 2012](#)
- [January 2012](#)
- [December 2011](#)
- [November 2011](#)
- [October 2011](#)
- [September 2011](#)
- [August 2011](#)
- [July 2011](#)
- [April 2011](#)
- [March 2011](#)
- [February 2011](#)
- [January 2011](#)
- [December 2010](#)
- [November 2010](#)
- [October 2010](#)
- [September 2010](#)
- [August 2010](#)
- [July 2010](#)
- [June 2010](#)
- [May 2010](#)
- [April 2010](#)
- [March 2010](#)
- [February 2010](#)
- [January 2010](#)
- [December 2009](#)
- [November 2009](#)
- [October 2009](#)
- [September 2009](#)
- [August 2009](#)
- [July 2009](#)
- [June 2009](#)
- [May 2009](#)
- [March 2009](#)
- [February 2009](#)
- [January 2009](#)
- [December 2008](#)
- [November 2008](#)
- [October 2008](#)
- [September 2008](#)
- [August 2008](#)
- [July 2008](#)
- [June 2008](#)
- [May 2008](#)
- [April 2008](#)
- [March 2008](#)
- [February 2008](#)
- [January 2008](#)
- [December 2007](#)
- [November 2007](#)
- [October 2007](#)
- [September 2007](#)
- [August 2007](#)
- [July 2007](#)
- [June 2007](#)
- [May 2007](#)
- [April 2007](#)
- [March 2007](#)
- [February 2007](#)
- [January 2007](#)

### Categories

Select Category

Blog at [WordPress.com](#) - [The Chateau Theme](#).

[Follow](#)

Follow “Kelly Tshibaka”

Get every new post delivered to your Inbox.

Join 904 other followers

Powered by [WordPress.com](#)

%d bloggers like this:

- [About](#)
- [Resources](#)
- [Speaking](#)

## Kelly Tshibaka

### ~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional

Search:



## Monthly Archives: *April 2010*

### [Thoughts on Difficult Departure of Church Members](#)

15 *Thursday* Apr 2010

Posted by [kishibaka](#) in [stories from a pioneer church](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

Awkwardly ago, some key leaders of our church left in a way that was really hard for me and Niki and our church. We talked to a more senior pastor about it, and he shared these thoughts:

– The people leaving don't feel and see how this will affect the church because they're not the pastors – they don't have the call and heart for the people that we do.

– There's a constant risk that people will see you trying to promote or advance yourself when in fact you're acting out of what you want for *them*.

– Your defining moments in ministry are WHY you're moving – is it God's prompting or something else?

– Let them go. But tell them your heart and if they take these steps, it may lead to heartache and grief for them.

– A word of the Lord that we believe will ALWAYS be tested. He always tests the "yes" we give Him to see if we really believe.

– Bless them and love them out the door. Be honest with them.

– There's a difference between a rip and a release. Find ways to work with them to protect the flock.

– Make their departure about your new future, not about the past.

#### Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

#### Like this:

Like Loading...

### [My Eulogy and Graveside Service for My Granpa](#)

06 *Tuesday* Apr 2010

Posted by [kishibaka](#) in [Uncategorized](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)



**Eulogy for Granpa, Edward Leonard Allsup  
(Oct 9, 1922 – Mar 26, 2010)**

1. Prayer for God's blessing upon the service and for comfort to those who mourn.

#### 2. PERSONAL COMMENTS

Today, we have met in the memory of Edward Leonard Allsup, my Granpa or "Papa." Papa was a gift. He gave us so many gifts, but there are three for which I am particularly thankful.

First, Papa gave us the gift of legacy. He fought in World War II, establishing for our family roots of courage, heroism, and honor. He also significantly contributed to our family heritage by thoroughly researching our genealogy and authoring an auto-biography. I love that auto-biography – the stories from Granpa's childhood, the insights from his life, and the recounting of our ancestors' military service. That auto-biography is truly a gift, as was the life he led.

Second, Papa gave us the gift of his creativity and art. Whether it was wood working, painting, jewelry making, or composing, Papa's art was inspiring. What I liked most about Papa's art was how passionate he was about it and how meaningful it was to him. His heart was in it. He only created what he loved. Like the old woman he whittled out of wood for me. And the picture he painted of a young John the Baptist for me after Niki and I got married. And the song he composed for me my first year of college. Each of these pieces – along with all the others – are family heirlooms that will forever reflect a piece of Granpa's heart.

Third, Papa gave me the gift of a Grandfather. As the only grandpa I knew, he modeled for me what a grandfather is supposed to be. He had fun with me. As a child, I have so many memories of Granpa playing cards with me, snickering when he got doing something he wasn't supposed to be doing, making goofy faces at me, calling me silly names, and driving me around in his golf cart. And even as I got older, he kept playing with me. Like the one time I came to visit them during college and he and Granma went out to dinner with me at 10 o'clock at night. He was much more excited about this adventure than Granma was! Granpa also gave me lots of presents. As a young child, he would bring me countless presents every time he came to see me. Looking back now, I know they were mostly free stuff he picked up from various companies. But then, they were treasure! He also gave me his car when I was in college and in desperate need of a vehicle. And as a grown-up, he gave me anything in his possession that mattered to me – from family pictures, to artwork, to memorabilia from the war. Finally, Granpa was so proud of me. I remember how he plastered "Proud Grandpa" stickers all over his garage and car. I think he had more college apparel from my alma maters than I have! Yes, I suspect he always was more excited about my accomplishments than I was.

Granpa was a gift in every way. Not only did he gift us with who he chose to be, but he also was a gift to us from God, the giver of all good gifts. And the thing about God and His story is that the gift of Granpa doesn't end here – it's an eternal gift. God's plan from the beginning was for us to live eternally with Him – one with Him and with each other, never separated by death (or by all the other things that separate us). After sin entered the world through Adam and Eve, however, we were destined to be forever separated from Him and at odds with each other. The wages of sin was death, and the end of the story seemed to change – instead of living with God, we would die without Him. But God loved us so much that He sent Jesus to die for us – in our place. And whoever believes in Him will not perish but have everlasting life. For those who believe, the story continues just as God intended.

Granpa believed. And so we can be confident that he lives in eternity. Jesus said, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies; and whoever lives and believes in me will never die." As we celebrate Easter this week, we can take great comfort in knowing that Jesus's victory over death approximately 2,000 years ago means that Granpa has victory over death, too, because Christ lives in him. Plain and simple, death is swallowed up in victory. For Jesus, death is like sleeping. When his friend Lazarus died, he told the disciples Lazarus had fallen asleep. And when they didn't get it, he told them plainly, "Lazarus is dead." Similarly, when Jairus's daughter died, Jesus said, "Stop weeping, for she has not died, but is asleep." For those who are in Christ, like Granpa, death has lost its victory; it has lost its sting. And the story isn't over – it's just beginning.

In the light of these promises God has given us in His Word and in as much as it has pleased the Lord in His sovereign wisdom and purpose to take from our midst one whom we have loved, we now commit Granpa's body to its final resting place.

3. Closing Prayer and Lord's prayer

#### Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

#### Like this:

Like Loading...

Search:

### Follow Blog

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 904 other followers

### Recent Posts

- [Being Blind and Carrying Car Keys](#)
- [More relationship...](#)
- [Another Open Letter to President Obama](#)
- [You Can't Make This Up](#)
- [Burton's Take on Birth Control](#)

### Archives

- [October 2013](#)
- [September 2013](#)
- [August 2013](#)
- [June 2013](#)
- [May 2013](#)
- [April 2013](#)
- [March 2013](#)
- [February 2013](#)
- [January 2013](#)
- [December 2012](#)
- [November 2012](#)
- [October 2012](#)
- [September 2012](#)
- [August 2012](#)
- [July 2012](#)
- [June 2012](#)
- [May 2012](#)
- [April 2012](#)
- [March 2012](#)
- [January 2012](#)
- [December 2011](#)
- [November 2011](#)
- [October 2011](#)
- [September 2011](#)
- [August 2011](#)
- [July 2011](#)
- [April 2011](#)
- [March 2011](#)
- [February 2011](#)
- [January 2011](#)
- [December 2010](#)
- [November 2010](#)
- [October 2010](#)
- [September 2010](#)
- [August 2010](#)
- [July 2010](#)
- [June 2010](#)
- [May 2010](#)
- [April 2010](#)
- [March 2010](#)
- [February 2010](#)
- [January 2010](#)
- [December 2009](#)
- [November 2009](#)
- [October 2009](#)
- [September 2009](#)
- [August 2009](#)
- [July 2009](#)
- [June 2009](#)
- [May 2009](#)
- [March 2009](#)
- [February 2009](#)
- [January 2009](#)
- [December 2008](#)
- [November 2008](#)
- [October 2008](#)
- [September 2008](#)
- [August 2008](#)
- [July 2008](#)
- [June 2008](#)
- [May 2008](#)
- [April 2008](#)
- [March 2008](#)
- [February 2008](#)
- [January 2008](#)
- [December 2007](#)
- [November 2007](#)
- [October 2007](#)
- [September 2007](#)
- [August 2007](#)
- [July 2007](#)
- [June 2007](#)
- [May 2007](#)
- [April 2007](#)
- [March 2007](#)
- [February 2007](#)
- [January 2007](#)

### Categories

Select Category ▼

[Blog at WordPress.com. The Chateau Theme.](#)

[Follow](#)

### Follow "Kelly Tshibaka"

Get every new post delivered to your Inbox.

Join 904 other followers

Powered by [WordPress.com](#)  
904 bloggers like this:





- [About](#)
- [Resources](#)
- [Speaking](#)

## Kelly Tshibaka

### ~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional

Search:



## Monthly Archives: *September 2007*

### [A Good Game Night](#)

29 Saturday Sep 2007

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [stories from a pioneer church](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

Last night we had some friends from church over, as well as some recently-made friends who are looking for a church community in the area. We ate some lasagna (not so hot — I cooked it, but when we dug into it, it was lukewarm. Bummer!) and played 2 of my favorite games: Catch Phrase and Celebrities. (Celebrities is the best because it doesn't require a board and moves from a trivial-pursuit guessing-style stage to a charades-only stage in guessing various celebrities' names)

I had so much fun! I also LOVED that what started out as a small group ballooned the night of the game as people came over last-minute. There's nothing like a non-churchy night of people laughing and cutting up to end a long week and get people to feel instantly familiar with each other. Even though it can seem like just-another-thing-to-schedule, I want to try to do game nights more often.

Or maybe karaoke night... : D

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

Like this:

Like Loading...

### [Some Hope After the Passing of Grandma](#)

27 Thursday Sep 2007

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [personal](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

Last Saturday, 9/22/07, dad's mom passed away. I have been especially sad for dad because his mom was essentially his only parent. But on my part, I am sad that the broken relationships (between me and her, and her and mom, and me & mom and dad's sister) were not restored.

But mom recently told me that when she went to say goodbye to grandma before she passed, she told dad's sister how much they appreciated her for all that she had done for grandma. Dad's sister started crying and it seems that, in an instant, 25+ years of tension and bad blood may have been resolved. I can't even express how encouraged I am!

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

Like this:

Like Loading...

### [Psalm 19: Rewritten for a University Philosophy Class](#)

26 Wednesday Sep 2007

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [Uncategorized](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

*[To stretch my creative Bible-reading skills, I re-wrote Psalm 19 (which praises the works and law of God) for a university philosophy class. Below is my short essay or lecture message.]*

In the matter of the existence of a higher being, we need look no further than the skies above our head which, though silent, speak to his existence every day and night. Though they do not talk, they speak volumes. Though they do not utter a word, they testify to his unparalleled craftsmanship. Their message is so powerful, that it transcends language, telecommunications infrastructures, and cultures to reach even the most remote parts of the earth.

Part of their message comes from the sun — an otherwise inanimate cosmological object that in and of itself is a testimony. Like all creations, the sun tells us a bit about its creator. The sun did not choose to be the sun; it did not choose to be placed in the sky; it did not decide to follow the same orbital course day-by-day. However, it encapsulates unthinkable joy. Each morning, it bursts forth like a young man after his wedding and it is as exuberant as an Olympic athlete with one foot on the start line. It is continually filled with a level of joy and anticipation that we can experience only in fleeting moments. It is so effective in being what it was created to be that nothing in all the world can hide from its heat.

The creator of the sun — this being who is the source of all joy and who sends his message to the farthest corners of the world, excluding no one — has also given us his law to live by to revive us, make the simplest people wise, bring us joy, and reward us greatly. Looking at the heavens, we can see that this being's law is not intended to punish us, beat us down, or oppress us. Instead, it is to include us, fill us with joy, and give us the opportunity to be as effective as possible in what we were created to be. The creator's law is perfect, trustworthy, clear, true, and fair. It is a perfect picture of the one who created it (and us). In fact, it is more desirable than gold and more sweet than honey — both of which are mere creations.

However, when we pause to consider our place with respect to this law, it is readily evident that we do not measure up to its standards. If we can only attain in fleeting moments what the sun attains 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, we surely fall short of the perfect law of the creator. Think of all the things we must do to grieve this marvelous higher being! Hurtful things we speak, malicious things we do, critical thoughts we entertain, and ways we unintentionally and unknowingly harm others — all these things mire us down, keep us from being filled with joy, and serve to punish us by keeping us from the reward our creator longs to give us. Yet the higher being who established the world has the ability — and desire — to cleanse us from these hidden faults and liberate us from our intellectual misdeeds so that we may live freely, innocently, and guiltlessly. What a humbling thought.

As we ponder the works, the law, and the love of this higher being, may we often be pleased him with the words of our mouth and the thoughts of our heart.

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

Like this:

Like Loading...

### [The Call of a Christian Attorney](#)

25 Tuesday Sep 2007

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [my other day job](#), [personal](#), [spiritual truths](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

Today, a friend gave me the article below. It's excerpts from a speech given by one of the men in Washington who I admire and respect the most (there's not many of them...), former Deputy Attorney General Jim Comey.

In an era — and a city — in which lawyers pride themselves in being “zealous advocates” (getting the clients whatever they want at any cost, including manipulating the law), Comey's words are inspirational. Many attorneys — including those who are children of the most high God — have taken their higher calling of upholding the law and doing what is right and sacrificed it at the altar of worldly pragmatism. But not Comey. He's brave enough to risk his career and very reputation to do what is right. And that's the calling of every Christian attorney.

I also found Comey's words quite encouraging personally because of all the stuff I'm going through at work right now. (keep the faith!)

Here's the washingtonpost.com excerpt:

#### **A Speech About Saying No, From a Man Who Would Know**

*The following are excerpts from a newly published speech by former deputy attorney general [James B. Comey](#), who addressed the [National Security Agency](#) in May 2005. A year earlier, Comey and other [Justice Department](#) lawyers had waged a fierce battle with the [White House](#) after determining that parts of the NSA's warrantless surveillance program were illegal. Most of the people who heard Comey's speech knew nothing about the dispute.*

*The standoff included an attempt by the White House to overrule Comey by gaining the approval of then-Attorney General John D. Ashcroft, who was in the hospital.*

*After Comey and others threatened to resign, [President Bush](#) agreed to make changes to the program.*

*The speech was published in the summer issue of the [Green Bag](#), a legal affairs journal.*

It can be very, very hard to be a conscientious attorney working in the intelligence community, particularly for those whose work touches on counter-terrorism and war-fighting. It is not because we don't work with great people. We do. We work with people who have dedicated their lives to protecting this great country and all it stands for.

It can be hard, instead, because the stakes couldn't be higher. Hard because we are likely to hear the words: “If we don't do this, people will die.” You can all supply your own this: “If we don't collect this type of information,” or “If we don't use this technique,” or “If we don't extend this authority.” It is extraordinarily difficult to be the attorney standing in front of the freight train that is the need for this. Because we don't want people to die. . . .

But it's not that simple, although during crises, at times of great threat, it can surely seem that simple, certainly to the policy maker and operator, and even to the lawyer. We lawyers know — or should know — better than anyone, that it is not that simple. . . .

It is the job of a good lawyer to say “yes.” It is as much the job of a good lawyer to say “no.” “No” is much, much harder. “No” must be spoken into a storm of crisis, with loud voices all around, with lives hanging in the balance. “No” is often the undoing of a career. And often, “no” must be spoken in competition with the voices of other lawyers who do not have the courage to echo it.

For all those reasons, it takes far more than a sharp legal mind to say “no” when it matters most. It takes moral character. It takes an ability to see the future. It takes an appreciation of the damage that will flow from an unjustified “yes.” It takes an understanding that, in the long-run, intelligence under law is the only sustainable intelligence in this country. . . .

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

Like this:

Like Loading...

### [Keeping the Faith](#)

25 Tuesday Sep 2007

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [my spiritual journey](#), [stories from a pioneer church](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

*Faith is the confidence that what we hope for will actually happen; it gives us assurance about things we cannot see.*

*Heb. 11:1*

A couple things have really shaken me lately. Things I could “see” have disappeared and I'm forced to walk by faith alone. It's been a “rubber-meets-the-road” season: do I really believe what I think I believe?

My challenge is to see past the storms around me and continue to fix my sights on God's promises to me — the things I hope for and the things I cannot see. God's word is clear — if I continue to press on, staying on a steady course of faith, and aiming for the promises He's given, then I will have great assurance and won't give up when the going gets tough.

It reminds me of a story I heard a couple years ago. A woman in a small town was married to a philandering man who frequented the bars every night and often did not come home. His reputation was known throughout their community, but his wife never spoke badly of him. Instead, when people in the town told her about what he was doing, she would respond that he was a good man, that she believed in him, and that she refused to believe that he would engage in such behavior. This baffled the people in her town because she obviously was aware of what her husband was doing.

One day, though, word got back to the husband about what his wife was saying about him. He was so humbled by his wife's faith in him that he gave up drinking and philandering on the spot and went home. Overnight, he became the man she always believed he was.

Right now I'm just trying to maintain the faith — to keep believing for the things I cannot see. I look forward to the day when I can finally see what I can't see now — when what I've always believed comes to pass.

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

Like this:

Like Loading...

### [The Power of Resurrection](#)

24 Monday Sep 2007

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [my spiritual journey](#), [personal](#), [stories from a pioneer church](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

*I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the fellowship of sharing in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, and so, somehow, to attain to the resurrection from the dead.* Philipians 3:10-11

Lord,

I guess I want to thank you for answering my prayer. A couple weeks ago, I came across Philipians 3:10 and thought it would be pretty cool to know the power of your resurrection and experience your resurrection from the dead. But now that you're answering my prayer, I realize that I glossed over the middle part of these verses. . .

My prayer now, God, is that I will experience the power of the resurrection quickly because right now I feel like I'm getting a taste of death. Hear my voice and be merciful to me and answer me, Lord.

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

Like this:

Like Loading...

### [Cutie Pie's First Steps](#)

21 Friday Sep 2007

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [kid stories](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

On Tuesday, Sept. 11, Cutie Pie took his first step! When I picked him up from daycare, he squealed and excitedly broke his grip on the daycare provider's hands to take 3 steps to me and fall into my arms! It totally warmed my heart. I am so excited that I got to see his first steps AND that they were while he was walking to me!

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

Like this:

Like Loading...

### [Encouraged by You](#)

21 Friday Sep 2007

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [personal](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

I'm back! It's been a while since I've been able to blog/journal, but I can't wait to jump back in. I have a ton of stuff on my mind that I need to get down to record, reflect on, and act on. But to all of you out there who have been reading these postings — please know that I am greatly encouraged by you. Not only in enduring through trials, but also in continuing to write. Thanks for sharing your thoughts with me ~

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

Like this:

Like Loading...

### [Follow “Kelly Tshibaka”](#)

Get every new post delivered to your Inbox.

Join 904 other followers

### Recent Posts

- [Being Blind and Carrying Car Keys](#)
- [More relationships...](#)
- [Another Open Letter to President Obama](#)
- [You Can't Make This Up](#)
- [Boston's Take on Birth Control](#)

### Archives

- [October 2013](#)
- [September 2013](#)
- [August 2013](#)
- [June 2013](#)
- [May 2013](#)
- [April 2013](#)
- [March 2013](#)
- [February 2013](#)
- [January 2013](#)
- [December 2012](#)
- [November 2012](#)
- [October 2012](#)
- [September 2012](#)
- [August 2012](#)
- [July 2012](#)
- [June 2012](#)
- [May 2012](#)
- [April 2012](#)
- [March 2012](#)
- [January 2012](#)
- [December 2011](#)
- [November 2011](#)
- [October 2011](#)
- [September 2011](#)
- [August 2011](#)
- [July 2011](#)
- [April 2011](#)
- [March 2011](#)
- [February 2011](#)
- [January 2011](#)
- [December 2010](#)
- [November 2010](#)
- [October 2010](#)
- [September 2010](#)
- [August 2010](#)
- [July 2010](#)
- [June 2010](#)
- [May 2010](#)
- [April 2010](#)
- [March 2010](#)
- [February 2010](#)
- [January 2010](#)
- [December 2009](#)
- [November 2009](#)
- [October 2009](#)
- [September 2009](#)
- [August 2009](#)
- [July 2009](#)
- [June 2009](#)
- [May 2009](#)
- [March 2009](#)
- [February 2009](#)
- [January 2009](#)
- [December 2008](#)
- [November 2008](#)
- [October 2008](#)
- [September 2008](#)
- [August 2008](#)
- [July 2008](#)
- [June 2008](#)
- [May 2008](#)
- [April 2008](#)
- [March 2008](#)
- [February 2008](#)
- [January 2008](#)
- [December 2007](#)
- [November 2007](#)
- [October 2007](#)
- [September 2007](#)
- [August 2007](#)
- [July 2007](#)
- [June 2007](#)
- [May 2007](#)
- [April 2007](#)
- [March 2007](#)
- [February 2007](#)
- [January 2007](#)

### Categories

Select Category

[Blog at WordPress.com.](#) [The Chateau Theme.](#)

[Follow](#)

Follow “Kelly Tshibaka”

Get every new post delivered to your Inbox.

Join 904 other followers

Powered by [WordPress.com](#)

%d bloggers like this:

DONATE



<http://www.linkedin.com/cws/share?token&isFramed=fa>

Latest

Show All

Hrm.

The Wayback Machine has not archived that URL.

This page is available on the web!

Help make the Wayback Machine more complete!

Save this url in the Wayback Machine

Click here to search for all archived pages under  
<http://www.linkedin.com/cws/>.



The Wayback Machine is an initiative of the Internet Archive, a 501(c)(3) non-profit building a digital library of Internet sites and other cultural artifacts in digital form. Other projects include Open Library & archive-it.org.

Your use of the Wayback Machine is subject to the Internet Archive's Terms of Use

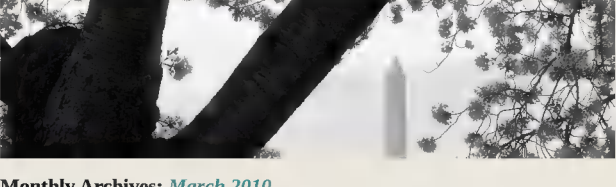


- [About](#)
- [Resources](#)
- [Speaking](#)

## Kelly Tshibaka

### ~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional

Search:



## Monthly Archives: *March 2010*

### [Proud Papa](#)

**29** *Monday* Mar 2010

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [my spiritual journey](#), [personal](#), [women's topics](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

I'm writing my eulogy for Granpa, and the thing that makes me cry every time is remembering how proud he was of me.

I don't know why it touches a nerve so deep – I think it must be really important to me that those I love, from Niki, to my parents, to my grandparents, be proud of me. I didn't realize what a strong value this is for me.

But I see how this also plays into my relationship with God. I really, really want Him to be proud of me, too. And when I think He is, I feel unstoppable and fearless. But when I think He might not be, it crushes me. Oh, to replace that fear with the truth that He always thinks the world of me!

Like Loading...

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

**Like this:**

Like Loading...

### [My Granpa's Obituary](#)

**28** *Sunday* Mar 2010

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [personal](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

Edward Leonard Allsup, Ph.D., 87, passed away March 26, 2010 in Sun City West, AZ. Dr. Allsup was born October 9, 1922 in Des Moines, IA to Howard and Myrtle Allsup. Pastor Kelly Tshibaka, his granddaughter, will officiate graveside services to be held at the family plot on Wednesday, March 31st at 11:00am at Olney Cemetery in Pendleton, OR.

Dr. Allsup served as a runner in Europe during WWII in the Army's Trailblazer 70th Infantry Division, unit C/274 earning several medals. During the war, he met Jean Harvey at a USO dance and upon return from Germany, they were married November 3, 1945. He earned BA and Master's degrees in Music Education from The University of Kansas, and a Ph.D. in Education from the University of Southern California. He taught for over 25 years and retired as principal from Newhall Elementary School in 1977. He also taught graduate students at Cal State LA and Pepperdine and was the reading consultant for various southern California school districts. He was active in community service through organizations including the Masons and Kiwanis.

In addition to his numerous career accomplishments, Dr. Allsup was an accomplished artist, creating hundreds of oil and acrylic paintings, wood carvings, lapidary and stained glass. He wrote original music scores, played the piano, trumpet, french horn, church organ and sang in the church choir. He loved to learn new things and, in his senior years, taught himself the computer and (at the age of 50) how to downhill ski.

During his retirement, Dr. Allsup and his wife enjoyed traveling throughout the 50 US states, Canada and Mexico in their motorhome, exploring Europe together, and taking cruises to the Orient and Panama Canal. They moved to their retirement home in Sun City West, AZ in 1989 where he enjoyed playing golf and took great pride in his hole-in-one game. His family remembers him for his playful and loving heart, his creative mind, his integrity, his humor, patriotism, and his honorable service to his country.

He is preceded in death by his parents and brothers, Raymond and Carl.

He is survived by his "bride" of 64 years, Jean; brother Jack Allsup; daughters and son-in-laws Sharon and Jim Drake, and Michele and Bill Hartline (all of Alaska); granddaughters and husbands Kelly and Niki Tshibaka, and Lindsay and Joshua Collier; granddaughter Jenna Drake; grandson Ron Drake; great grandchildren Denaal, Josiah and Joseph Tshibaka and many nieces and nephews.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to Disabled American Veteran causes.

Like Loading...

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

**Like this:**

Like Loading...

### [Cool Note from a Young Christian Leader](#)

**22** *Monday* Mar 2010

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [leadership](#), [Notes for Pastor's Wife](#), [spiritual truths](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

Hi Kelly,

As soon as I thought about praying for your two big prayer items (for Joseph's court date and for the Intel bill I've been working on for 5 years), I realized that both of them are scenarios in which all your faithfulness in the past (working on the bill) and present and future (raising children) are like casting a stone into a pond...the Lord can take that faithfulness and cause ripples that build far beyond your contribution.

So I am praying in this way, that Lord would take your deep individual faithfulness in justice and love, fulfill these desires of your heart, and cause them to leave a beautiful legacy that is greater than you could have imagined ☺

It is fun to pray in such a way to such a God!

Like Loading...

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

**Like this:**

Like Loading...

### [The First Lost Tooth](#)

**19** *Friday* Mar 2010

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [kid stories](#), [raising kids](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

On Tuesday, March 16, Button lost her first tooth. It became loose the Wednesday before. She was fascinated by it that evening, but then totally freaked out about it Thursday morning. When Niki left her at school, she was crying inconsolably. I think she was just so beside herself, not knowing what was going on, if it would hurt, and why it felt funny to eat anything at all!

But then by the time she came home that night, she was sporting that tooth around like a pair of new designer jeans. "Look at my tooth!" "See my tooth!" On the way home from school, she declared that she wanted me to take it out that night. "That way the tooth fairy will come and leave me candy or money or a toy under my pillow!"

"Who told you about the Tooth Fairy, Button?" I asked.

"Nobody did. I just know it."

Oh, the osmosis of our culture.

"Well, I have a secret to tell you. The Tooth Fairy isn't real. There can't be a Tooth Fairy because there's no such thing as fairies."

"Oh! Then why do all the parents tell their kids there's a Tooth Fairy?"

"Because they want to do something special for them and they think it's more special if they say a tooth fairy comes. But there isn't a Tooth Fairy. Instead, while you're sleeping, Daddy and I will come in your room and leave you a treat."

Unphased, she said, "Ooh! Can it be a lollipop? Or maybe gum? Or money? Or chocolate? You know what? I like lollipops the most. Can it be a lollipop?"

I grinned. "We'll see!"

"Can we take it out tonight???" she begged.

"We can try, honey."

I had no idea how determined this kid was to get a lollipop. First we tried "mom's fingers" – me pulling on the tooth. But no success. So then we graduated to the string around the tooth tied to the door handle trick. We tried that three times. The tooth was MUCH looser, but still hanging on. She was undeterred, though. "Get the tools, Mama!" Okay... so I went and got some pliers and laid her down on the bed.

I must admit, it looked a bit like a scene from a horror movie – me hovering over her with pliers wide open, and her cringing on the bed with her mouth open. We tried that three times, too, until she finally was too scared to continue. So, the tooth stayed in, but barely!!!

She was so worried about it hurting – and bleeding! – when it came out. But it did neither. It fell out when she was running in the gym at school, and she proudly presented it to me when I picked her up from school that day.

And I snuck a lollipop under her pillow that night.

And she ate it before Niki got her up and ready for school the next morning.

I love that kid!

Like Loading...

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

**Like this:**

Like Loading...

### [Note from Fellow Pastor](#)

**07** *Sunday* Mar 2010

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [miscariage](#), [Notes for Pastor's Wife](#), [personal](#), [spiritual truths](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

I asked a seasoned pastor in Foursquare to pray for me after my miscarriage. A month later, this is the note I received. It was RIGHT ON for many things God's been showing me and doing in me during this season of recovery, grieving, and healing.

"Hi Kelly, still praying for you! Hope things are going better for you. I did want to share one word with you. Psalm 27 – "One Thing" Stayed Focused on the "One Thing" the same goes for when you sit at his feet. The story of Mary and Martha. God is calling you to the Mary ministry, to sit at His feet and observe the "One Thing" Worship Him, "BE" intimate with Him. The Martha's around you could get angry with you, because all you want to do is "BE" Rest in His Presence, stay quiet and no matter what others say, this is your season and calling for NOW! Will continue to Pray! Be Blessed! God is turning your water into wine – New Wine is found in the Chaster – Isa. 65:8"

Like Loading...

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

**Like this:**

Like Loading...

### [Follow Blog](#)

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 904 other followers

### Recent Posts

- [Being Blind and Carrying Car Keys](#)
- [More relationsh...](#)
- [Another Open Letter to President Obama](#)
- [You Can't Make This Up](#)
- [Button's Take on Birth Control](#)

### Archives

- [October 2013](#)
- [September 2013](#)
- [August 2013](#)
- [June 2013](#)
- [May 2013](#)
- [April 2013](#)
- [March 2013](#)
- [February 2013](#)
- [January 2013](#)
- [December 2012](#)
- [November 2012](#)
- [October 2012](#)
- [September 2012](#)
- [August 2012](#)
- [July 2012](#)
- [June 2012](#)
- [May 2012](#)
- [April 2012](#)
- [March 2012](#)
- [January 2012](#)
- [December 2011](#)
- [November 2011](#)
- [October 2011](#)
- [September 2011](#)
- [August 2011](#)
- [July 2011](#)
- [April 2011](#)
- [March 2011](#)
- [February 2011](#)
- [January 2011](#)
- [December 2010](#)
- [November 2010](#)
- [October 2010](#)
- [September 2010](#)
- [August 2010](#)
- [July 2010](#)
- [June 2010](#)
- [May 2010](#)
- [April 2010](#)
- [March 2010](#)
- [February 2010](#)
- [January 2010](#)
- [December 2009](#)
- [November 2009](#)
- [October 2009](#)
- [September 2009](#)
- [August 2009](#)
- [July 2009](#)
- [June 2009](#)
- [May 2009](#)
- [March 2009](#)
- [February 2009](#)
- [January 2009](#)
- [December 2008](#)
- [November 2008](#)
- [October 2008](#)
- [September 2008](#)
- [August 2008](#)
- [July 2008](#)
- [June 2008](#)
- [May 2008](#)
- [April 2008](#)
- [March 2008](#)
- [February 2008](#)
- [January 2008](#)
- [December 2007](#)
- [November 2007](#)
- [October 2007](#)
- [September 2007](#)
- [August 2007](#)
- [July 2007](#)
- [June 2007](#)
- [May 2007](#)
- [April 2007](#)
- [March 2007](#)
- [February 2007](#)
- [January 2007](#)

### Categories

Select Category

[Blog at WordPress.com](#). [The Chateau Theme](#).

[Follow](#)

### Follow "Kelly Tshibaka"

Get every new post delivered to your Inbox.

Join 904 other followers

Powered by [WordPress.com](#)

%d bloggers like this:





- [About](#)
- [Resources](#)
- [Speaking](#)

## Kelly Tshibaka

### ~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional

Search:



## Monthly Archives: *January 2012*

### [Button's Piano Flub](#)

21 Saturday Jan 2012

Posted by [kushibaka](#) in [kid stories](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

We were at Niki's parents' house one weekend. Button and Siah decided to put on a concert for Niki's Dad's birthday. Siah played the guitar, and Button played "O Come All Ye Faithful" on the piano. During the song, she got a note wrong and said, "Oops! That was a sour note. Come back next Fall!" She had us in stitches!!!

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

Like this:

Like Loading...

### [Insights on Church from Pastor Ben Eige](#)

20 Friday Jan 2012

Posted by [kushibaka](#) in [Church](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

I think what we're seeing is a backlash of sorts to the attractal model of church in the last 20-30 years. Our style of church has become an entertainment model of sorts, not to be crass, and not fellowship and discipleship/training based. Just as TV shows run their course, people weary of them and they're canceled, because the audience is wanting more and they walk away. Now, in Western culture at least, self created content is supreme with the rise of YouTube, etc. People want to be involved in the process and not mere spectators.

Its not enough to just be entertained. There is a huge community of fan-based content creation. Fans of Star Wars don't just want to watch Star Wars, they want to make their own Star Wars movies. It isn't enough to just play Angry Birds, people create they're own "levels" on their dining room tables out of blocks and stuffed green pigs! Folks desire to be involved in the process and not mere spectators.

But isn't this the model Jesus gave us? "Go" was his great commission. Jesus' call is an intentional and specific directive that His disciples and followers be involved in the process! Let's make churches a place of fellowship and discipleship so that Christians have a foundation in truth to then "Go." To be involved in the process, to be content-creators of new and innovative ways to advance the kingdom.

Our role as pastors is not to satisfy, entertain and placate but to provide a place to cultivate dynamic relationships amongst Christians, for that place where "iron sharpens iron," and to teach and train Christians to go into a pluralistic culture and contextualize the gospel as Paul did at Mars Hill for the Athenians. In that, I believe, those Christians questioning "church" and their place in it will sense a renewed meaning and purpose to gathering with other believers as a springboard to missional action in their neighborhoods and communities.

A tough reality for us pastors is there is still a latent desire among many to be entertained only and not involved, and they will clamor for that. We will have to walk through this transition with the fresh work the Holy Spirit is breathing as a goal to work towards and be wary of the voices calling for the status quo.

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

Like this:

Like Loading...

### [Jezebel and Church Planters](#)

19 Thursday Jan 2012

Posted by [kushibaka](#) in [Church](#), [spiritual truths](#), [stories from a pioneer church](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

*Recently I had the privilege of talking with a church planting pastor who was facing some overwhelming challenges. It didn't take long to see that they were facing the spirit of Jezebel — seems common with church plant efforts. We went through a terribly grueling, protracted period of fighting this spirit. I shared with the other pastor some of the lessons we learned and keys to defeating the spirit of Jezebel, like praying and fasting. Here's a recent email exchange with a status update from them:*

On Tue, Jan 17, 2012, Church Planter wrote:

Hi Kelly,  
I wanted to thank you for taking the time to talk with me a couple of weeks ago. As you were speaking, I felt refreshed in my soul. Your words were exactly what I needed to hear. I shared what you said to my husband and he was equally blessed. In fact, we purchased Dr. Cho's book and we have been taking his testimonies of faith to heart!  
We have been praying and fasting. As I prayed against the spirit of Jezebel, I also was lead to pray against the spirit of death. I have felt more confident and more energized to lead in the past couple of weeks. A few nights ago I was "smothered" again by an oppressive spirit, but quickly prayed in the Spirit and felt released. It is uncanny how much we have felt the oppression and evil around us. Our core team has as well. We have asked them to begin praying in the Spirit as much as possible.  
We have been reading about Elijah as well. I believe we have a choice to make early on in this church plant — either to press in and let God have full control and embrace the battle knowing God's yoke is easy and His burden light or keep things comfortable. Thank you for pointing out the reality of what we are facing as church planters. I have been praying for you and Niki as well. God bless you and your family. God bless you for pouring yourselves out for His glory.

And my response:

Hi!  
It's so good to hear from you! I was thinking of calling you to check in — I'm so glad to hear things are going well. Yes, you are so right about the strong temptation towards just being comfortable — in Revelation 2 the church was guilty of tolerating the spirit of Jezebel. They chose to just be comfortable rather than fight it/her. I'm also reminded of the verse in Revelation that we overcome by the blood of the Lamb and the word of our testimony. I suspect Cho's testimonies are giving you little victories day by day!

Please keep me posted! I'm thinking about and praying for you!

Kelly

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

Like this:

Like Loading...

### [Thought Provoking Questions on Church](#)

17 Tuesday Jan 2012

Posted by [kushibaka](#) in [Church](#), [discipling](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

Niki sent this email to our church leadership team to generate discussion on re-thinking (and possibly restructuring church). What are your thoughts, blog readers?

Please ponder and reflect on these questions. I'd like us to dialogue on them over email, face-to-face, etc. I'll have more of these questions for us, as we move ahead in what God has for us. But I believe finding the answers we're seeking about what it means to be an incarnational church in this generation begins with asking the right questions. So, let's start with these and see where it takes us (make sure to hit "reply all") ...

Hey guys:  
I don't know if you'd heard but Oprah has a new show, the tag line for which says something like "your world is her stage." So interesting that she seems to recognize that the model for her old show, where people came to her, was not sustainable much longer. The new model of the future is to go to her audience. No more bringing the world to her show. She is now bringing her show to the world.  
It think that is a picture of where we need to head— bringing the Church to the world instead of trying to find ways to bring the world to the Church. Jesus didn't tell his disciples to wait for the world to come to the temple in Jerusalem, He told them He was sending them out to the world.  
Query: *How do we bring the Church to our generation such that the Church is seen to exist in the world, not in a building? Also, how do we get to a place where the phrase "go to church" is not only thoughtless nonsensical but also no longer reflects reality?*

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

Like this:

Like Loading...

### [Kids Say the Darndest Things](#)

14 Saturday Jan 2012

Posted by [kushibaka](#) in [kid stories](#), [raising kids](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

Yesterday, Button persuaded me to throw her a half birthday party. Since her birthday is in the summer, it's hard to get kids to come to a party. So we do something fun in the winter as an excuse to celebrate and have friends over.

After much pleading, I gave in and invited a couple of her friends over for the afternoon. Friends, playing, a movie and ice cream sundaes—pretty great un-birthday party, right? Not according to Button.

"Mama, we have to have decorations." I wasn't buying it. "No, Mama, really. The twisty paper up in the sky."

So I got out crepe paper, hung two streamers from the breakfast table lamp over to the window. It looked nice, especially for an un-birthday party.

"Um, Mama, it's not enough. There's only two of them. It's not even. We need two more. One that goes there, over to the pantry door. And another one that goes just so, up high over to the arch way."

I rolled my eyes. She is so particular. And her little perfectionist socializing personality was in high gear!

"Mama, I noticed that when I asked you to make two more streamers you went like this (she imitates me rolling my eyes). Was I pushing you?"

"A little, Button, but it's ok. I know you're excited about this."

So I hung the two streamers.

"Um, Mama? You see this one? Can you make it short please? It's hanging longer than the other ones and it looks like the ugly duckling. And, while you're fixing it, can you move it more that way so it matches the other ones?"

When did I get conscripted into Her Majesty's service?

I just laughed, and changed them. She's too cute.

She straightened up the house. "Oh, I did a great job. This whole party was my idea. And I made the house look amazing! My friends are going to love it!!"

And then after I set the princess tablecloth and plates, she exclaimed, "Now THIS is what I was talking about. A party that is all about ME! Me, me, me, me, me!"

Too funny. How we went from an afternoon play date to a full blown party. Over NOTHING. Oh, but I love creating a culture of joy in our home.

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

Like this:

Like Loading...

### [Questions about My Experiences Volunteering](#)

13 Friday Jan 2012

Posted by [kushibaka](#) in [deep thoughts](#), [healing](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

An eighth grader interviewed me about my volunteer service. Right now, all my serving of others is tied to my call as a pastor, so I answered the questions from that perspective:

1. Why did you choose to volunteer?

To do for others what has been done for me.

2. What kind of things do you do to volunteer?

Heal people. Set the lonely in families. Restore people who are broken (broken marriages, broken hearts, addictions, crises, etc.). Encourage, strengthen, comfort, give hope.

3. What is your most memorable volunteer experience?

Oh, there are so many. Like the time I prayed for a woman who was diagnosed with an inoperable cancerous brain tumor. But when she went in to her next doctor's appointment, the tumor had imploded and consumed itself! The doctors had never seen anything like it; she was completely healed! Or the woman who had a baby even though her family was very poor, and her husband was very rough towards her. I talked with her many times, helped her with food and baby products, and showed her a lot of love. Well, one day she told me her husband wanted to talk to me. I was scared—I didn't know if he was going to yell at me, or maybe even hurt me! But instead, he thanked me and started crying: "nobody has ever been this kind to us or shown us love like this before."

4. How does your service help support your community?

Making a difference in the life of just one makes a difference in the life of us all.

5. Do you have any advice for 8th graders to find a place to serve?

What needs do you see around you? Who do you know that needs help? What breaks your heart? (The abandonment of an orphan? The hunger of a homeless person? The woman who has been abused by the person she most trusted?) Start right where you are.

For example, when I was your age, I was heartbroken about the poverty of some elementary school kids who attended the school across the street from me. I was volunteering in the school, helping out in the classrooms. At Easter, I asked the school if they could give me the names and addresses of kids whose families didn't have enough money for the Easter bunny to come. They did, and I solicited donations, bought them presents, showed up Easter morning, and hid eggs, chocolates and presents outside. The best part was hiding around the corner and seeing the kids' faces when they came outside!

6. what do you enjoy the most about volunteering?

Seeing people's lives changed. Seeing them happier, stronger, healthier, better.

7. What is your least favorite thing about volunteering?

A lot of times it doesn't seem like I'm making any difference. It takes time, and a lot of behind the scenes work, to love and serve people. I think it always makes a difference, but oftentimes I don't see it. And that can be discouraging.

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

Like this:

Like Loading...

Search:

### Follow Blog

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 904 other followers

### Recent Posts

- [Being Blind and Carrying Car Keys](#)
- [More Relationships...](#)
- [Another Open Letter to President Obama](#)
- [You Can't Make This Up](#)
- [Button's Take on Birth Control](#)

### Archives

- [October 2013](#)
- [September 2013](#)
- [August 2013](#)
- [June 2013](#)
- [May 2013](#)
- [April 2013](#)
- [March 2013](#)
- [February 2013](#)
- [January 2013](#)
- [December 2012](#)
- [November 2012](#)
- [October 2012](#)
- [September 2012](#)
- [August 2012](#)
- [July 2012](#)
- [June 2012](#)
- [May 2012](#)
- [April 2012](#)
- [March 2012](#)
- [January 2012](#)
- [December 2011](#)
- [November 2011](#)
- [October 2011](#)
- [September 2011](#)
- [August 2011](#)
- [July 2011](#)
- [April 2011](#)
- [March 2011](#)
- [February 2011](#)
- [January 2011](#)
- [December 2010](#)
- [November 2010](#)
- [October 2010](#)
- [September 2010](#)
- [August 2010](#)
- [July 2010](#)
- [June 2010](#)
- [May 2010](#)
- [April 2010](#)
- [March 2010](#)
- [February 2010](#)
- [January 2010](#)
- [December 2009](#)
- [November 2009](#)
- [October 2009](#)
- [September 2009](#)
- [August 2009](#)
- [July 2009](#)
- [June 2009](#)
- [May 2009](#)
- [March 2009](#)
- [February 2009](#)
- [January 2009](#)
- [December 2008](#)
- [November 2008](#)
- [October 2008](#)
- [September 2008](#)
- [August 2008](#)
- [July 2008](#)
- [June 2008](#)
- [May 2008](#)
- [April 2008](#)
- [March 2008](#)
- [February 2008](#)
- [January 2008](#)
- [December 2007](#)
- [November 2007](#)
- [October 2007](#)
- [September 2007](#)
- [August 2007](#)
- [July 2007](#)
- [June 2007](#)
- [May 2007](#)
- [April 2007](#)
- [March 2007](#)
- [February 2007](#)
- [January 2007](#)

### Categories

Select Category

[Blog at WordPress.com: The Chateau Theme.](#)

[Follow](#)

### Follow "Kelly Tshibaka"

Get every new post delivered to your Inbox.

Join 904 other followers

Powered by [WordPress.com](#)

95d bloggers like this:



- [About](#)
- [Resources](#)
- [Speaking](#)

## Kelly Tshibaka

### ~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional

Search:



## Monthly Archives: *December 2008*

### Cute Button Prayer

25 *Thursday* Dec 2008

Posted by [kushibaka](#) in [kid stories](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

Last night before bed, Button prayed the cutest prayer. It included things like:

Urn, God,  
Please hug and kiss me.  
And please cuddle with me. I love cuddling.  
Please protect us from all things bad and evil and wicked!  
I pray your blessings on me.  
I pray your blessings on Sihah.  
And please can you make it so he doesn't pray "Our Fodder" over and over again. I don't like that!  
I pray your blessings on me (again).  
And bless my mama and daddy and Micki and Papa and Lindsay and Josh.  
And thank you for Santa and all the gifts he's going to give me!  
Amen!

#### Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

#### Like this:

Like Loading...

### Dossier to Ethiopia

11 *Thursday* Dec 2008

Posted by [kushibaka](#) in [adoption](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

On 12/5/08, I received word that our dossier was sent to Ethiopia!

"Hi Kelly! Good news going into the weekend. Your dossier was sent to Ethiopia today! Congratulations!! ~ Kristin"

Now the official "waiting time" begins. It seems like it's been so long already. I really hope this goes quickly from here. I am starting to feel a bit panicky again -- will we ever see our child? How long, oh Lord?! I take comfort in knowing that this is His plan and His timing is perfect. But sometimes the emotional roller coaster is difficult!

I named my blog "private" when I received word that the dossier was sent. The Ethiopian government is known to check prospective parents' blogs. I don't believe *anything* in my blog would concern them, but I didn't want to risk it -- something could easily be misinterpreted and it would jeopardize our entire application. This child means too much to me; it wasn't worth the risk.

So until this child is safely tucked into the bed upstairs, my blog will remain private.

Let's hope it's not too long!

#### Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

#### Like this:

Like Loading...

### A Note and a Word

02 *Tuesday* Dec 2008

Posted by [kushibaka](#) in [my spiritual journey](#), [Notes for Pastor's Wife](#), [women's topics](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

*From another woman in our fellowship. Can I just say -- I am so enthusiastic about how much our women are operating prophetically (getting words from God for people and passing them on)! After our meeting today, I came home and prayed a quick prayer that God's name will be glorified in all of this (these challenges and this step in faith). ...God quickly led me to these verses that I felt I should share with you in all of this:*

Praise the Lord.  
Sing to the Lord a new song,  
his praise in the assembly of the saints.  
Let Israel rejoice in their Maker;  
let the people of Zion be glad in their King.  
Let them praise his name with dancing  
and make music to him with tambourine and harp.  
For the Lord takes delight in his people;  
he crowns the humble with salvation.  
Let the saints rejoice in this honor  
and sing for joy on their beds.  
Psalm 149:1-5

*[Um, sounds a lot like the "singing" word I was given not too long ago... i think i need to make an effort today to sing aloud to the Lord and worship Him completely!]*

#### Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

#### Like this:

Like Loading...

### A Word for Me

02 *Tuesday* Dec 2008

Posted by [kushibaka](#) in [my spiritual journey](#), [Notes for Pastor's Wife](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

*A woman in our fellowship sent me this email:*

I was reading this morning and wanted to share this verse with you, because you came to my heart while I was reading it.

Psalm 74: 25-26, 28  
Whom have I in heaven but You? And besides You, I desire nothing on earth. My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever. But as for me, the nearness of God is my good; I have made the Lord God my refuge, that I may tell of Your works.

I love you.

*This was so encouraging and instructive -- it's exactly what I needed to read in a time when my spirit is growing weak. Funny thing is, I had a portion of this scripture marked up already. How cool is that -- the way God reiterates His words to us!*

#### Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

#### Like this:

Like Loading...

### A Word for Me from a Woman in Church

01 *Monday* Dec 2008

Posted by [kushibaka](#) in [Notes for Pastor's Wife](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

I read this at the end of my Bible Study this morning, and I instantly had a picture of you. Hope this uplifts your day! Love you!

Psalm 28: 7  
"The LORD is my strength and my shield;  
my heart trusts in him, and I am helped.  
My heart leaps for joy  
and I will give thanks to him in song."

#### Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

#### Like this:

Like Loading...

Search:

## Follow Blog

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 904 other followers

## Recent Posts

- [Being Blind and Carrying Car Keys](#)
- [More relationsh...](#)
- [Another Open Letter to President Obama](#)
- [You Can't Make This Up](#)
- [Burton's Take on Birth Control](#)

## Archives

- [October 2013](#)
- [September 2013](#)
- [August 2013](#)
- [June 2013](#)
- [May 2013](#)
- [April 2013](#)
- [March 2013](#)
- [February 2013](#)
- [January 2013](#)
- [December 2012](#)
- [November 2012](#)
- [October 2012](#)
- [September 2012](#)
- [August 2012](#)
- [July 2012](#)
- [June 2012](#)
- [May 2012](#)
- [April 2012](#)
- [March 2012](#)
- [January 2012](#)
- [December 2011](#)
- [November 2011](#)
- [October 2011](#)
- [September 2011](#)
- [August 2011](#)
- [July 2011](#)
- [April 2011](#)
- [March 2011](#)
- [February 2011](#)
- [January 2011](#)
- [December 2010](#)
- [November 2010](#)
- [October 2010](#)
- [September 2010](#)
- [August 2010](#)
- [July 2010](#)
- [June 2010](#)
- [May 2010](#)
- [April 2010](#)
- [March 2010](#)
- [February 2010](#)
- [January 2010](#)
- [December 2009](#)
- [November 2009](#)
- [October 2009](#)
- [September 2009](#)
- [August 2009](#)
- [July 2009](#)
- [June 2009](#)
- [May 2009](#)
- [March 2009](#)
- [February 2009](#)
- [January 2009](#)
- [December 2008](#)
- [November 2008](#)
- [October 2008](#)
- [September 2008](#)
- [August 2008](#)
- [July 2008](#)
- [June 2008](#)
- [May 2008](#)
- [April 2008](#)
- [March 2008](#)
- [February 2008](#)
- [January 2008](#)
- [December 2007](#)
- [November 2007](#)
- [October 2007](#)
- [September 2007](#)
- [August 2007](#)
- [July 2007](#)
- [June 2007](#)
- [May 2007](#)
- [April 2007](#)
- [March 2007](#)
- [February 2007](#)
- [January 2007](#)

## Categories

Select Category

[Blog at WordPress.com](#). [The Chateau Theme](#).

[Follow](#)

## Follow "Kelly Tshibaka"

Get every new post delivered to your Inbox.

Join 904 other followers

Powered by [WordPress.com](#)

%d bloggers like this:

- [About](#)
- [Resources](#)
- [Speaking](#)

## Kelly Tshibaka

### ~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional

Search:  |



## Monthly Archives: *August 2013*

### [Best Advice I've Received on How to Live Well](#)

17 Saturday Aug 2013

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [deep thoughts](#), [giving thanks](#), [ministry](#), [my spiritual journey](#), [spiritual truths](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

Tags

[Parenting](#), [Pastoring](#), [Pioneering](#), [Professional](#)

"Any day spent loving God and loving people is a day well lived." ~Stephen Norberg, Foursquare church planter. If at the end of my life I can look back and say that every day of my life I loved God and loved people, then I've lived life well. One way I love God is through giving thanks: delighting in the gifts of now, like soap bubbles glistening, a dad's passing smile, or a friend's hug. As a spiritual practice, I keep a gratitude journal: a list of things for which I'm thankful. I'm up to more than 1,800!

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

Like this:

Like Loading...

### [Where is God In a Friend's Murder-Suicide](#)

16 Friday Aug 2013

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [deep thoughts](#), [spiritual truths](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

Tags

[Pastoring](#)

*A man in our church is good friends with Muni. He stayed at Muni's house last month- Muni was in Israel attending his brother's funeral (his brother committed suicide). You may have heard of Muni: last week he murdered his son before taking his own life. <http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/nation/2013/08/11/father-kills-son-yvira/264133/>*

*When the monsters in the news take on a human face, when you are aware of their despair and hopelessness, you can't help but move from judgment to empathy and conviction. Oh, if only Muni had had an ounce of hope. He wasn't a monster. He was in despair.*

*I was moved deeply by the truth, revelation, and compassion of the man in our church as he wrote to tell us about Muni. I want to share those insights with you--*

As I went for a walk, trying to make sense of the senseless, it occurred to me that God sees it all, whether He wants to or not, whether we tell Him or not.

He is the one who sees.

He has to see the senseless, the hateful, the contemptible, the awful and all the rest.

And even though He's able to stop it all, He can't stop everything because He wants to give us a choice whether or not to choose Him, because if there's no choice, it's not really love.

So in a sense, that poor child died so that I would have an opportunity to choose God.

It gave me a glimpse of how valuable I am to God.

I don't know exactly how it all works, but it is very hard being God.

I know it's not something I'm really able to do, but I want to make the depravity of this world just a little less total by living for God.

I want to let Him have His way in my life.

I don't want what happened tonight, and other unspeakably awful things, to happen as often.

I want to be a conduit of blessing.

It's not that I think I could have stopped this: that's not likely.

But intercession puts God into situations in ways we don't entirely understand.

And given that Muni decided everything is hopeless, maybe it's good for me to maintain an attitude of hopefulness.

Even when the unspeakable happens.

After all, a good God is watching, and maybe there's just a chance that I can make what He sees a bit less painful.

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

Like this:

Like Loading...

### [Harley Fans](#)

15 Thursday Aug 2013

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [funny](#), [kid stories](#), [personal](#), [raising kids](#)

≈ [1 Comment](#)

Tags

[Parenting](#)

My parents were bikers. They were going to name me Harley if I was a boy...

I grew up a Harley girl. Played for the House of Harley ice hockey team. Hope to get a bike one day (waiting for Niki to be ok with it).

So imagine my delight when Bunton just said to me, "When I grow up I'm going to marry a guy whose last name is Davidson. And then I'm going to name my daughter Harley!"

You go girl!

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

Like this:

Like Loading...

### [My Dad's Take on Raising Me](#)

13 Tuesday Aug 2013

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [funny](#), [kid stories](#), [raising kids](#)

≈ [1 Comment](#)

Tags

[Parenting](#)

I was telling my dad how I'll need a vacation after this vacation just to get a break from the kids.

He laughed and said, "Yeah, but then they grow up and move away and marry people and then you think, 'Man, I really miss my kids.'

"And then they come home and visit and tell you what they're going to do with you when you're old..."

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

Like this:

Like Loading...

### [Bunton wants a Brother--I Kid You Not](#)

12 Monday Aug 2013

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [kid stories](#)

≈ [1 Comment](#)

Tags

[Parenting](#)

The kids don't know I'm pregnant, so it was interesting when Bunton used sign language to tell me she wanted another baby.

I asked her if she wanted a brother or sister. She said either. Then she said, "a brother would be awesome, but if we have a girl, she'll have to sleep in the hall cause she's not sleeping in MY room!"

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

Like this:

Like Loading...

### [Nailed It](#)

10 Saturday Aug 2013

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [personal](#)

≈ [2 Comments](#)

Tags

[Parenting](#)

Papa was teaching the kids archery. They did really well. I hadn't tried it since camp as a kid, but when the kids challenged me and wanted to see if I could beat them, I couldn't resist!

I stood about 30' away, where they'd been shooting from, and nailed a bullseye. And then again!

"Oh, yeah, mom?! Try it from back there!!" They pointed about 75' away where the trees were. "Okay!"

I lined up the shot and --- thwang --- nailed it again! Even better than before.

Ha ha ha, take that kids! "Oh, mom! You're good at EVERYTHING." That's probably the first time anyone's ever said that about me, so you know what? I let it stand. I mean, how do you refute three bullseyes in a row?!



Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

Like this:

Like Loading...

### [Oh What a Couple Months It's Been](#)

09 Friday Aug 2013

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [balancing it all](#), [deep thoughts](#), [ministry](#), [miscarriage](#), [my other day job](#), [my spiritual journey](#), [personal](#), [raising kids](#), [women's topics](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

Tags

[Parenting](#), [Pioneering](#), [Professional](#)

So much has happened--writing anything feels overwhelming. So much to say, might as well not say anything.

That's why I haven't really blogged in 2 months

I'm pregnant. #5. I'm in a better place than I was, but this is unexpected. And came with waves of fear, anger, resentment, confusion, and peace. Sigh. I'm hoping for a beautiful inner transformation to come out of this.

I left my old job. The one that did a number on me. Closing out was a sprint. And sad--just as anti-climactic as I anticipated. Walking out of the building I experienced some of the same deliverance manifestations I've had on occasion in the past. Fascinating.

Got a great new job. They like me. They defer to me and trust me. It's nice. I'm in the office two days a week, work from home one. My commute is half what it was. Amazing.

Moved into our new house in June. Love it. Well I will when we are settled. We've moved four times since Dec. so we couldn't be unpacked, ORGANIZED, and settled in any quicker.

So it didn't help when I spent most of July in the couch sooooo sick with morning sickness. Far worse than ever before. I literally couldn't move without losing my stomach. Ugh.

I'm at 12 weeks today. So this morning I'm feeling better about the idea that I won't miscarry this one like I did two times ago. And excited that the morning sickness is at an end. And getting happier about having a ginormous family. : )

Guess I'm learning to surrender. Again. I thought we were on one plan, going a certain way, including a path of four kids and reduced expenses--enough that I could focus more on ministry and being with the family. I'm slowly coming to grips with that not being God's plan. At least for the foreseeable future. A year! His plan is better, but it has thrown me for a bit of a loop.

It's been a year of unexpecteds.

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

Like this:

Like Loading...

### [Siah and the Pillow Fight](#)

02 Friday Aug 2013

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [funny](#), [kid stories](#)

≈ [1 Comment](#)

Siah took my dad's "rice sack" pillow to camp. It literally feels like a sack of rice. So when the camp counselors announced a friendly game of pillow fight, Siah had a distinct advantage! He was wallpopping kids with a sack of rice, knocking em down left and right all around the cabin!!! Hysterical!! You should have seen the glint in his eye and dimples on his cheek when he told me!

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

Like this:

Like Loading...

Search:  |

### Follow Blog

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 904 other followers

### Recent Posts

- [Being Blind and Carrying Car Keys](#)
- [More relationship...](#)
- [Another Open Letter to President Obama](#)
- [You Can't Make This Up](#)
- [Bunton's Take on Birth Control](#)

### Archives

- [October 2013](#)
- [September 2013](#)
- [August 2013](#)
- [June 2013](#)
- [May 2013](#)
- [April 2013](#)
- [March 2013](#)
- [February 2013](#)
- [January 2013](#)
- [December 2012](#)
- [November 2012](#)
- [October 2012](#)
- [September 2012](#)
- [August 2012](#)
- [July 2012](#)
- [June 2012](#)
- [May 2012](#)
- [April 2012](#)
- [March 2012](#)
- [January 2012](#)
- [December 2011](#)
- [November 2011](#)
- [October 2011](#)
- [September 2011](#)
- [August 2011](#)
- [July 2011](#)
- [April 2011](#)
- [March 2011](#)
- [February 2011](#)
- [January 2011](#)
- [December 2010](#)
- [November 2010](#)
- [October 2010](#)
- [September 2010](#)
- [August 2010](#)
- [July 2010](#)
- [June 2010](#)
- [May 2010](#)
- [April 2010](#)
- [March 2010](#)
- [February 2010](#)
- [January 2010](#)
- [December 2009](#)
- [November 2009](#)
- [October 2009](#)
- [September 2009](#)
- [August 2009](#)
- [July 2009](#)
- [June 2009](#)
- [May 2009](#)
- [March 2009](#)
- [February 2009](#)
- [January 2009](#)
- [December 2008](#)
- [November 2008](#)
- [October 2008](#)
- [September 2008](#)
- [August 2008](#)
- [July 2008](#)
- [June 2008](#)
- [May 2008](#)
- [April 2008](#)
- [March 2008](#)
- [February 2008](#)
- [January 2008](#)
- [December 2007](#)
- [November 2007](#)
- [October 2007](#)
- [September 2007](#)
- [August 2007](#)
- [July 2007](#)
- [June 2007](#)
- [May 2007](#)
- [April 2007](#)
- [March 2007](#)
- [February 2007](#)
- [January 2007](#)

### Categories

Select Category

[Blog at WordPress.com](#). [The Chateau Theme](#).

[Follow](#)

Follow "Kelly Tshibaka"

Get every new post delivered to your Inbox.

Join 904 other followers

Powered by [WordPress.com](#)

%d bloggers like this:





- [Resources](#)
- [Speaking](#)

## Kelly Tshibaka

### ~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional

Search



## Monthly Archives: July 2009

### Vacation Update

25 Saturday Jul 2009

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [general](#), [kid stories](#), [personal](#)

• [Leave a Comment](#)

We're at Great Wolf Lodge in Williamsburg, VA. This is an amazing place – a perfect getaway for our family. From the shows for the kids, to the statey room and spectacular tv for Niki, to the indoor waterpark for me – it couldn't get any better. Oh yes, and the SONIC RIGHT DOWN THE STREET, right next to the SUPER WAL-MART! I can't even express how excited I am!!!

Yesterday was pool day and arts and crafts day. We spent over 3 hours swimming and then did arts and crafts that afternoon in the adorable kids' room they have here (so many ideas for building out a children's church room!). The kids made Christmas ornaments (I didn't even strangen them into doing it!) and tie-die t-shirts, which we'll pick up today. For dinner, we had breakfast! Siah embraced the idea, but Button was suspicious and not totally on board: "WHAT? We don't do that – we don't eat breakfast for dinner!" After some coaxing, she got into it, though. After all, it's vacation! Today, the plan is to swim, swim, brunch, swim. And then go to Colonial Williamsburg. On this day 9 years ago, Niki proposed to me. And for dinner that night, we went to a restaurant in Colonial Williamsburg to celebrate. So tonight, we're all going to the same restaurant! It will be so neat to be there on the same evening – and to share that with the kids!

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

Like this:

Like Loading...

### How Does God Feel About Mere Obedience?

25 Saturday Jul 2009

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [Bible study](#), [my spiritual journey](#)

• [2 Comments](#)

The story of the 10 lepers in Luke 17:11-19 taught me some interesting things regarding God's take on our obedience. Let me say at the outset that I am a big proponent of obedience. Not only is it emphasized repeatedly (and then re-emphasized to the point of redundancy) throughout God's word, but it also syncs up with the way I'm wired – I like executing things, following the rules, and getting stuff done. By and large, if I know God is telling me to do something, I do it – immediately, unquestioningly, and zealously. Which is why this story had some very interesting truths for me to meditate upon.

So, to paraphrase the event, Jesus is walking around and 10 lepers meet him on the outskirts of town and they cry out to him and ask him to "have mercy on them" (that's "leper" for "heal, please!"). Jesus doesn't heal them then and there; he only tells them to go show themselves to the priests. Which is interesting because most the time Jesus does a healing miracle, he tells the person healed to be quiet and not tell anyone. Any case, as the lepers ran off to do what Jesus said, they were healed! (Can you imagine?) Well, one of the dudes turns around and goes back to Jesus, and the other 9 ran ahead and obeyed Jesus to the letter. The one dude who turned around was a Samaritan. Quick aside – in the caste system of the day, Samaritans were enemies of the Jews, despised by them, and treated like "dogs." So it's interesting that the one who turned around is the one who had least reason in this world to do so. And why did he do it? To glorify God and give thanks to Him. He fell at Jesus' feet and poured out a declaration of faith and worship. This made Jesus very happy, but he was dismayed at the other 9 who did not return to give glory to God.

OK, WAIT A MINUTE, STOP THE PRESSSES. What?!! It seems that god is not always pleased with our unquestioned obedience. He is more interested in us truly understanding what He's done for us and why (because He loves us). He wants to be loved in return. He wants to restore the relationship with mankind that was broken in Eden. We're not robots – He won't compel our love. Obedience is an aspect of our relationship with Him and our love for Him (see John 14). But when obedience is separated from relationship and love, it seems that it is offensive to the Lord.

How can we easily get caught up in the "tasks" of my faith – doing my religion rather than being with Jesus (or in relationship with Jesus). There's a balance – my obedience cannot be separated from my love for Him, thankfulness to Him, faith in Him, or glorification of Him.

Jesus had mercy on the lepers and healed them as asked. It wasn't conditioned on their robotic execution of orders – it was by His grace. I also can take for granted God's answers to my prayers and lose sight of why, exactly, He is answering them. His desire is for a relationship with me (for my love, thankfulness, faith, and glorification), not for robotic execution of His orders.

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

Like this:

Like Loading...

### Enjoying the Journey

23 Thursday Jul 2009

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [deep thoughts](#), [my spiritual journey](#), [spiritual truths](#)

• [Leave a Comment](#)

I'm more of a destination person than a journey person. A lot more. Always have been. I prefer getting there than road tripping. I prefer the last page of the book than the hundred before it. I prefer being sacrificed than going through the process of sanctification...(I think).

Lots of people have tried to persuade me to "just enjoy the journey!" But it's been futile. I've never come across a compelling case for becoming a journey person rather than a destination person. Until now. I had my message this week – an annual to bi-annual indulgence that I looooooove. And as I was laying there, totally relaxed, I found myself regretting how quickly it would all end. I can easily get caught up in the "tasks" of my faith – doing my religion rather than being with Jesus (or in relationship with Jesus). There's a balance – my obedience cannot be separated from my love for Him, thankfulness to Him, faith in Him, or glorification of Him.

OK, WAIT A MINUTE, STOP THE PRESSSES. What?!! It seems that god is not always pleased with our unquestioned obedience. He is more interested in us truly understanding what He's done for us and why (because He loves us). He wants to be loved in return. He wants to restore the relationship with mankind that was broken in Eden. We're not robots – He won't compel our love. Obedience is an aspect of our relationship with Him and our love for Him (see John 14). But when obedience is separated from relationship and love, it seems that it is offensive to the Lord.

How can we easily get caught up in the "tasks" of my faith – doing my religion rather than being with Jesus (or in relationship with Jesus). There's a balance – my obedience cannot be separated from my love for Him, thankfulness to Him, faith in Him, or glorification of Him.

Jesus had mercy on the lepers and healed them as asked. It wasn't conditioned on their robotic execution of orders – it was by His grace. I also can take for granted God's answers to my prayers and lose sight of why, exactly, He is answering them. His desire is for a relationship with me (for my love, thankfulness, faith, and glorification), not for robotic execution of His orders.

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

Like this:

Like Loading...

### Noah's Family

23 Thursday Jul 2009

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [Bible study](#), [spiritual truths](#)

• [Leave a Comment](#)

A careful reading of Genesis 5 shows that Methuselah, Noah's grandfather, died the year of the flood (he was 969 years old). And Lamech, Noah's dad, died 5 years before the flood at the age of 782.

It's not clear whether Methuselah died in the flood or happened to die the same year as the flood. But, it sure is a striking "coincidence" in timing (I don't believe in coincidences – I believe in GODINCIDENCES). Moreover, Genesis 3:22 establishes that people grow more sinful as they grow older, which is why God did not want us to attain eternal life in our fallen, mortal condition. At 969 years old, Methuselah had a lot of time to rack up a lot of sin. Plus, the contrast between the descriptions of Methuselah and Enoch (his father) is telling – Enoch is described as enjoying a close relationship with God throughout his life and being taken by God (never dying) at a young age: 365. Methuselah is simply described as dying at 969. Also, there's a pattern in scripture (and in life) of the righteous being followed by the unrighteous (i.e., Enoch being followed by Methuselah). While it's not a rule, it sure happens a lot.

Finally, when Genesis 6 explains why God picked Noah to survive the flood, it says Noah was the only blameless man on earth, that all others were corrupt and totally evil, and that Noah was like Enoch. The strong implication, of course, is that Methuselah and Lamech (who were alive at the time) were corrupt, totally evil, and not like Enoch. So far all these reasons, I think it's likely that Methuselah died in the flood.

Wow. Can you imagine how Noah was mocked by his grandfather, father, aunts, uncles, brothers, and sisters while he was building the ark? Can you imagine Noah being in the ark while most of these people died in the flood?

It's clear from this passage that sometimes we will be called to do things for God that require sacrificing our relationships with those for whom we care the most because of our relationship with Him. What obedience! But can you imagine what would have happened if Noah had picked his relationship with his family members over his relationship with God?

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

Like this:

Like Loading...

### The Passion of Siah

22 Wednesday Jul 2009

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [kid stories](#), [raising kids](#)

• [Leave a Comment](#)

There was an incident. It was wrong. Here's my eyewitness account.

I was in my bathroom, getting ready for the day. Button and Siah were in his room. They had been given clear instructions: he was to clean his room, she was to help him, and she was NOT to do it for him (he has a tendency of reneging on his responsibilities and sticking them on her). It had been awhile – the room should've been close to done.

Next thing I know, I hear Siah hollering at the top of his lungs. And about 20 seconds later, Button rounds the corner to the bathroom and very matter-of-factly reports that Siah is NOT cleaning up his room. As she's going on in some detail about all that he's NOT doing, Siah rounds the corner, too.

His face is red. His eyes are puffy. His face is soaked in tears. And so is his chest and his shirt. And he's boiling mad! He starts waving his finger in the air, shouting at the top of his lungs, and ripping into Button. Even I was intimidated!

I couldn't make much out, but it was clear that he thought a terrible injustice had been committed in Button coming to tattle-tale on him. I asked him to take a deep breath and to tell me in a calm voice what had happened.

It seems that Button and Siah were cleaning up the room as planned. But then they both got distracted and started playing. She pulled out the tritons and made a terrible mess in his room. Then, when she was done, she told him he needed to clean it up. He retorted that no, she needed to clean it up because she made the mess. And then she quipped back, "I'm going to tell mom you're not cleaning up your room!" And off she went. And off HE went!

How did the messy room caper end? Button was sent to her room for a time out. Siah's anger subsided quickly (he thought he was going to get in such terrible trouble, and he knew he wasn't able to articulate as well as his sister – what hope did he have?). I spoke gently to Siah about how he didn't need to let his anger control him – he could trust that if he remained calm, he would get justice. And then I went and talked to Button about how awful it is to try to get her brother in trouble like that – it's like lying, and it's like what Cain did to Abel. She got it (I think).

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

Like this:

Like Loading...

### Little Miss Funny

22 Wednesday Jul 2009

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [kid stories](#)

• [Leave a Comment](#)

We were driving home in the car and Button made a good observation about something. "Good connection, Button!" Niki said.

"I know, Daddy. I know everything!" she responded.

We laughed, and then Niki said, "She gets that from you."

"No, you," I said.

We did this back and forth a couple times until Button interrupted us: "Stop fighting, you two!"

"We're not fighting."

"Yes you are! Daddy, you're mommy's husband. Mommy, you're daddy's wife. You two never fight! Stop fighting!!!" She was saying serious things, but she was saying it with a funny voice, making us laugh in the process.

"We're not fighting, Button," Niki replied. "We're playing with each other."

"What?!!?" she asked, totally joking. "There's no playing in this family!" Then she paused for an appropriately comedic period and said, "JUST KIDDING!"

We were laughing so hard. Our Little Miss Funny back dere!

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

Like this:

Like Loading...

### Aren't You Forgetting Something?

22 Wednesday Jul 2009

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [kid stories](#), [raising kids](#)

• [Leave a Comment](#)

I'd had a tough day. I was frustrated, tired, and stressed out (and had been most of the day). And I didn't have much patience for the kids.

As I was getting the kids ready for bed, Button wasn't listening – nothing particularly bad, just frustrating. And normally I wouldn't have been upset by it. But because of where I already was, her disobedience really got to me, and I became INCENSED! So, I'm not real proud of what happened next, but suffice it to say that I apologized to her, calmed down, and we went on with the bedtime routine.

At the end of it all, we said our prayers. First Siah, then Button, then me. And when I ended, Button looked at me and said, "Aren't you forgetting something, Mama."

"What?" I asked.

"Don't you think you need to ask Jesus for forgiveness for the way you treated me? You weren't very patient or kind with me."

"Yes, I do. Because... I was going to do that later."

"I think you should do it now. Now's a good time."

Well, I couldn't argue that! "All right, Button." And I prayed again, this time asking Jesus for forgiveness for my impatience and unkindness.

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

Like this:

Like Loading...

### Encouraging Note from Attendee at the Leadership Conference

18 Saturday Jul 2009

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [Notes for Pastor's Wife](#)

• [Leave a Comment](#)

Hi Kelly,

Before too much time goes by, I just wanted to say a HUUUUUGE thank you for this weekend. I can't imagine what a huge sacrifice it is for your family to give up your weekends like this and minister to us. And in fact, you are one of the ONLY families I know on earth who ministers like you do. Most people I know who get married and have a family (and get all of their relationships needs met) do NOT reach out to refresh others. It's truly unbelievable and a real mark of your selfless love for others that you would do all of this (and a true example to me!!).

Second, I wanted to encourage you with some things I heard this weekend. I was telling me that "words cannot even describe what Kelly has done and been for us." And T. was telling me that you, Niki, are "such an amazing example" to the women in the church and that they are so lucky to have you. She said that you set an incredible example of finding things in yourself that need to be fixed, confessing them and then determined-ly charging ahead and not tiring until you fix them. It was so clear just by watching that you guys have had a HUGE impact on the lives of the women in your congregation. There was not a dry eye in the whole room during the prophesy testimonies!!

Third, you are such a smart and gifted speaker. Man, are you so good on your feet and so eloquent, it's totally amazing. You are such a great picture of feminine strength.

Also, I was so so so so refreshed I was this weekend! I didn't say much for me, maybe compared to the average person, but I felt so able to relax and just observe, which was a huge blessing for me. I was so so SOOOO ministered to by the sun, the boat cruise, walks, just sitting in your house, it was great. [I don't really have family that I can visit like that, so God was meeting a true need in me].

Fifth, Niki is SUCH a gifted pastor. It's amazing how, when he's speaking with someone one on one, they stop in their spirits and listen to him. It's a mirror image of what Jesus says "my sheep hear my voice." Niki's words are so soothing; people drop everything when he counsels one on one, they hang on his words. I really love it! I don't care what he says, I see him as being VERY patient and compassionate with the sheep.

Also, I was so so so so convicted by the huge example of S. I will need to tell him that, but I wanted to just confirm him because his evident time in the presence of God really ministered to me: both directly and indirectly. I now have a great picture of what I want to be like from time I could spend alone in the presence of God.

Anyway, I cannot believe how great you guys are doing, responding to the Lord's call and seeking Him more than almost anyone I know. I just KNOOOOOOW that he is going to take you further than you could EVER take yourselves (which is soooooo far!!) I'm amazed at how many "talents" you invest in the Kingdom. To him whom much is given, even more will be given.

You are such a great sister (and, as they say in Ann of Green Gables, "kindred spirit")!!! I'm so glad I know you!!

thank you thank you!

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

Like this:

Like Loading...

← Older posts

Search

### Follow Blog

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 904 other followers

### Recent Posts

- [Being Blind and Carrying Car Keys](#)
- [More relationships...](#)
- [Another Open Letter to President Obama](#)
- [You Can't Make This Up](#)
- [Button's Love on Birth Control](#)

### Archives

October 2013

September 2013

August 2013

June 2013

May 2013

April 2013

March 2013

February 2013

January 2013

December 2012

November 2012

October 2012

September 2012

August 2012

July 2012

June 2012

May 2012

April 2012

March 2012

February 2012

January 2012

December 2011

November 2011

October 2011

September 2011

August 2011

July 2011

June 2011

May 2011

April 2011

March 2011

February 2011

January 2011

December 2010

November 2010

October 2010

September 2010

August 2010

July 2010

June 2010

May 2010

April 2010

March 2010

February 2010

January 2010

December 2009

November 2009

October 2009

September 2009

August 2009

July 2009

June 2009

May 2009

March 2009

February 2009

January 2009

December 2008

November 2008

October 2008

September 2008

August 2008

July 2008

June 2008

May 2008

April 2008

March 2008

February 2008

January 2008

December 2007

November 2007

October 2007

September 2007

August 2007

July 2007

June 2007

May 2007

April 2007

March 2007

February 2007

January 2007

### Categories

Select Category

Blog at WordPress.com - The Chateau Theme.

Follow

Follow "Kelly Tshibaka"

Get every new post delivered to your inbox.

Join 904 other followers

Powered by [WordPress.com](#).

- [About](#)
- [Resources](#)
- [Speaking](#)

## Kelly Tshibaka

~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional

Search:

Go



## Monthly Archives: *September 2012*

### Out of the Mouth of Siah

13 *Thursday* Sep 2012

Posted by [ktshibaka](#) in [Uncategorized](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

A friend who was staying with us was kissing each of the kids on the top of the head as she left, and after she kissed Siah, she was like, “Ew! Now I have hair gel on my nose!” Siah responded, “Does that mean your nose is going to be really stylish today?”

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

Like this:

Like Loading...

Search:

Ga

### Follow Blog

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 904 other followers

Follow

### Recent Posts

- [Being Blind and Carrying Car Keys](#)
- [More relationsh...](#)
- [Another Open Letter to President Obama](#)
- [You Can't Make This Up](#)
- [Button's Take on Birth Control](#)

### Archives

- [October 2013](#)
- [September 2013](#)
- [August 2013](#)
- [June 2013](#)
- [May 2013](#)
- [April 2013](#)
- [March 2013](#)
- [February 2013](#)
- [January 2013](#)
- [December 2012](#)
- [November 2012](#)
- [October 2012](#)
- [September 2012](#)
- [August 2012](#)
- [July 2012](#)
- [June 2012](#)
- [May 2012](#)
- [April 2012](#)
- [March 2012](#)
- [January 2012](#)
- [December 2011](#)
- [November 2011](#)
- [October 2011](#)
- [September 2011](#)
- [August 2011](#)
- [July 2011](#)
- [April 2011](#)
- [March 2011](#)
- [February 2011](#)
- [January 2011](#)
- [December 2010](#)
- [November 2010](#)
- [October 2010](#)
- [September 2010](#)
- [August 2010](#)
- [July 2010](#)
- [June 2010](#)
- [May 2010](#)
- [April 2010](#)
- [March 2010](#)
- [February 2010](#)
- [January 2010](#)
- [December 2009](#)
- [November 2009](#)
- [October 2009](#)
- [September 2009](#)
- [August 2009](#)
- [July 2009](#)
- [June 2009](#)
- [May 2009](#)
- [March 2009](#)
- [February 2009](#)
- [January 2009](#)
- [December 2008](#)
- [November 2008](#)
- [October 2008](#)
- [September 2008](#)
- [August 2008](#)
- [July 2008](#)
- [June 2008](#)
- [May 2008](#)
- [April 2008](#)
- [March 2008](#)
- [February 2008](#)
- [January 2008](#)
- [December 2007](#)
- [November 2007](#)
- [October 2007](#)
- [September 2007](#)
- [August 2007](#)
- [July 2007](#)
- [June 2007](#)
- [May 2007](#)
- [April 2007](#)
- [March 2007](#)
- [February 2007](#)
- [January 2007](#)

### Categories

Select Category

▼

[Blog at WordPress.com.](#) [The Chateau Theme.](#)

[Follow](#)

Follow “**Kelly Tshibaka**”

Get every new post delivered to your Inbox.

Join 904 other followers

Enter your email address

Sign me up

Powered by [WordPress.com](#)

%d bloggers like this:

- [About](#)
- [Resources](#)
- [Speaking](#)

## Kelly Tshibaka

### ~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional

Search:



## Monthly Archives: *January 2007*

### [A Spiritual Lesson](#)

**26** *Friday* Jan 2007

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [my spiritual journey](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

God is teaching me to operate more in things of the spirit. I asked for this — that I would know better when He's speaking and leading. But I guess the process has been more humbling than I thought it would be. I think I estimated I was better at this than I actually am.

For example, I was reading some Scripture the other morning and two verses stood out to me as ones a friend would want to hear, given all she's going through. But I got distracted throughout the day and didn't email it to her or tell it to her when we spoke on the phone. No big deal — they were just two nice verses. Nothing special compared to all the other verses I've passed her way in the last 6 weeks.

Two days later, Niki came home and told me the Lord had given him some Scripture for my friend — it was the *same* two verses I had found! I was floored. And convicted. Guess they weren't just another couple-a'-nice verses. Guess it was God wanting to say something to her. And if I wasn't going to say it, He was going to use someone else. Come to think of it, I bet all those other couple-a'-nice verses weren't just me coming up with things to make her feel better.

I imagine this is going to be a long learning process for me. To recognize that a small thought/prompting/whisper in my spirit is actually the living God, to identify it when it happens, and to act on it accordingly.

#### Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

#### Like this:

Like Loading...

### [Button's Reaction to My Hair](#)

**24** *Wednesday* Jan 2007

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [kid stories](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

I chopped off about 12 inches of my hair yesterday. Went from Lady Godiva to a totally chic, sophisticated do. (I am donating my lovely-locks to Locks of Love, an organization that provides hair prosthetics for children with long-term medical hair loss.)

When we got home last night, I showed Button the hair I chopped off. Her response was, "Oh no, mommy. Put it back! Mommy, put it back!" Totally adorable!

#### Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

#### Like this:

Like Loading...

### [A Revelation](#)

**22** *Monday* Jan 2007

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [my spiritual journey](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

I had lunch with a friend and fellow pastor's wife the other day (I don't know why my spiritual revelations often are associated with eating...). Any case — during that lunch she said something that totally changed the way I see myself.

God brought Niki to me to support me in my ministry as much as He brought me to Niki to support him in his ministry. God has just as much of a calling on my life as He does Niki's. I had never seen it that way before. I realized that ever since I started dating Niki, I have been functioning as though the purpose of our relationship was for me to support him — and not the other way around. I also realized that I had been thinking, "Apart from Niki, you can do nothing." (Oh, what a sneaky little fox laying low in the vineyard of my soul.) But that's not how the Bible verse goes. It says: "Apart from Me, you can do nothing."

I have a ministry separate from Niki. Jesus has a unique call on my life. And He has brought Niki to me to help me achieve all He has for me. The Lord will hold me still for a period so He can move Niki forward. Then at some point, He will hold Niki still for a period so He can move me forward. In this way, we will come under each other, supporting each other. Gives new context to Paul's exhortation to "submit to one another."

I left that lunch overjoyed. I said to God, "I hope all my Philly cheesesteak sandwiches come with profound revelations like that."

#### Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

#### Like this:

Like Loading...

### [The Right](#)

**18** *Thursday* Jan 2007

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [Church](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

I was talking to a friend yesterday about the Church (writ large) and how disappointing it is that it has become so reactionary to society rather than staying true to its purpose and letting society react to it. She suggested I just write about what I do, what life is like in ministry, how I handle mommying, etc. But I don't know "what I do" or "how I do it." I guess I just do it. And I don't think I have anything particularly novel or helpful to share. But she really encouraged me — maybe something I share would be of interest to someone else. Maybe it could help other people — or at least let them know they're not alone in their journeys.

***The Church should focus on the "right" rather than the "right now."***

How true. And critical to remember, not only for our church but also for me as an individual.

#### Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

#### Like this:

Like Loading...

### [Purpose for this Blog](#)

**17** *Wednesday* Jan 2007

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [ministry](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

This past weekend, a dear friend and spiritual mentor visited us. We only see her about once a year. The last couple times we've seen her, though, she has strongly encouraged me to write a book. I have hesitated — even though writing a book is one of my dreams, one of those things on my list of things to do before I die, I have no idea what to write about. "What would I say?" I asked her. She suggested I just write about what I do, what life is like in ministry, how I handle mommying, etc. But I don't know "what I do" or "how I do it." I guess I just do it. And I don't think I have anything particularly novel or helpful to share. But she really encouraged me — maybe something I share would be of interest to someone else. Maybe it could help other people — or at least let them know they're not alone in their journeys.

And then I got to thinking about it some more. What she said really resonated with me and I felt downright compelled to begin a blog. With enough thoughts gathered over time, I just might have the makings of a book. It ties in well with our church planting efforts — I identified "journaling" as one of my favorite pastimes or leisure activities, and it makes a lot of sense to build a church identity and culture around the things you enjoy doing. So maybe this blog/journal will become an integral part of our ministry.

I'm going to use this blog to share my thoughts, experiences, joys, and trials in my roles as a pastor's wife, mom, and career attorney. And I'm going to keep it candid. Pure, unadulterated, unedited Kelly. Just my fresh perspectives on things going on — snapshots of my life.

At least it should be entertaining. (tee hee!)

#### Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

#### Like this:

Like Loading...

Search:

### Follow Blog

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 904 other followers

### Recent Posts

- [Being Blind and Carrying Car Keys](#)
- [More relationship...](#)
- [Another Open Letter to President Obama](#)
- [You Can't Make This Up](#)
- [Button's Take on Birth Control](#)

### Archives

- [October 2013](#)
- [September 2013](#)
- [August 2013](#)
- [June 2013](#)
- [May 2013](#)
- [April 2013](#)
- [March 2013](#)
- [February 2013](#)
- [January 2013](#)
- [December 2012](#)
- [November 2012](#)
- [October 2012](#)
- [September 2012](#)
- [August 2012](#)
- [July 2012](#)
- [June 2012](#)
- [May 2012](#)
- [April 2012](#)
- [March 2012](#)
- [January 2012](#)
- [December 2011](#)
- [November 2011](#)
- [October 2011](#)
- [September 2011](#)
- [August 2011](#)
- [July 2011](#)
- [April 2011](#)
- [March 2011](#)
- [February 2011](#)
- [January 2011](#)
- [December 2010](#)
- [November 2010](#)
- [October 2010](#)
- [September 2010](#)
- [August 2010](#)
- [July 2010](#)
- [June 2010](#)
- [May 2010](#)
- [April 2010](#)
- [March 2010](#)
- [February 2010](#)
- [January 2010](#)
- [December 2009](#)
- [November 2009](#)
- [October 2009](#)
- [September 2009](#)
- [August 2009](#)
- [July 2009](#)
- [June 2009](#)
- [May 2009](#)
- [March 2009](#)
- [February 2009](#)
- [January 2009](#)
- [December 2008](#)
- [November 2008](#)
- [October 2008](#)
- [September 2008](#)
- [August 2008](#)
- [July 2008](#)
- [June 2008](#)
- [May 2008](#)
- [April 2008](#)
- [March 2008](#)
- [February 2008](#)
- [January 2008](#)
- [December 2007](#)
- [November 2007](#)
- [October 2007](#)
- [September 2007](#)
- [August 2007](#)
- [July 2007](#)
- [June 2007](#)
- [May 2007](#)
- [April 2007](#)
- [March 2007](#)
- [February 2007](#)
- [January 2007](#)

### Categories

Select Category

[Blog at WordPress.com](#). [The Chateau Theme](#).

[Follow](#)

#### Follow "Kelly Tshibaka"

Get every new post delivered to your Inbox.

Join 904 other followers

Powered by [WordPress.com](#)

%d bloggers like this:

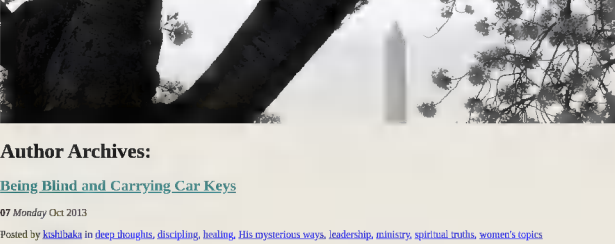


- [About](#)
- [Resources](#)
- [Speaking](#)

## Kelly Tshibaka

### ~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional

Search:



## Author Archives:

### Being Blind and Carrying Car Keys

07 Monday Oct 2013

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [deep thoughts](#), [discipling](#), [healing](#), [His mysterious ways](#), [leadership](#), [ministry](#), [spiritual truths](#), [women's topics](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

Gail McWilliams went blind during her pregnancies. She chose her children over her eyesight. And she believes in Jesus—the God who heals at any moment. Knowing her blindness could change any moment, she carries her car keys with her everywhere she goes.

What do you have in your hand that demands hope?

You were born on purpose, with purpose, for purpose. Our God is a drama king—He sets us up for the impossible so He can be glorified and we can grow.

You've been consumed by worries—but be consumed by this: God has placed you where you are for a purpose that only you can accomplish. Anyone can have your position, but you have your position. Why? What are you going to do with the influence He has given you?

Live your life for what you cannot see—live life for a vision that's ahead of you, one that you can't yet see, that's impossible *but for* God.

Do you love people? If not, don't pastor or minister to them. Develop your love and patience. An develop true grit—speak truth in love. They need truth, counsel, help—if you're not going to give it to them, then who? Ministry is about people; it's our pleasure to serve them! Please God and serve people—that's where greatness is found.

Have eyes to see the small things right in front of you that demand hope, compel vision, and require faith for the impossible. Have eyes to see what God is doing.

There's joy in the journey of following the promptings of God. Having joy is a choice.

There's a championship to be won. Don't get stuck on the 50 yard line in indecision, fear, or disbelief. Believe that He will use you right where you are, in the midst of the awkward and the flub ups and the failures. Tears do not negate faith. They do not negate purpose. Run the race.

Be consumed with passion for what you do, for people and loving them.

You're not stuck—you're in position! Don't overlook the opportunities right in front of you! Quit surviving and try living!

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

Quote

### More relationsh...

05 Saturday Oct 2013

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [Uncategorized](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

 [Reblogged from Just Isaac:](#)

More relationships are killed by passivity than abuse

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### Another Open Letter to President Obama

03 Thursday Oct 2013

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [Uncategorized](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

 [Reblogged from Just Isaac:](#)



In light of the government shutdown and subsequent presidential address in the country, I felt compelled to write this letter to President Barack Obama. Perhaps in it you can find your own frustration that is beyond ideals, politics and policies. It is a frustration in leadership.

Dear Mr. President,

I readily admit I do not know the complexity of your role.

[Read more...](#) [826 more words](#)

Our friend Isaac just visited us a couple weeks ago. I got a text from him earlier this week that made me feel really loved. It said something to the effect of: "I used to not care much about politics. But this shutdown is making me really angry." So he wrote this letter to the President. It's a great letter. But what I admire most of all about it is that, like with all things about Isaac, it's motivated by love — love for our country, love for our leaders, and love for the people of the DC community.

### You Can't Make This Up

25 Wednesday Sep 2013

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [Uncategorized](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

On the radio this morning, and they weren't joking:

"If the government shuts down: next week, all of DC will shut down, too. Trash, transportation, you name it. That's because the city of DC is funded by Congress. This news update is brought to you by Big Apple Circus."

You got that right...

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### Button's Take on Birth Control

16 Monday Sep 2013

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [Uncategorized](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

Denali: Daddy, I can't believe Mommy used to take birth control because she didn't want to have me yet. Why wouldn't she want me? I mean, I'm terrific! I'm amazing! I just don't get it!

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### Time Together

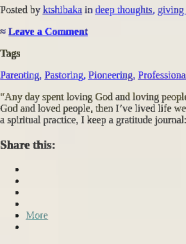
04 Wednesday Sep 2013

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [marriage](#), [ministry](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

We are getting away together. We are sans kids, staying in a swanky hotel, not too far from home. The point isn't how far away...the point is that we are alone together, not working, just celebrating and enjoying life and each other.

It's taken us awhile to figure out what we need to continue operating as the best version of ourselves. These times together are essential for both of us!



Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### Best Advice I've Received on How to Live Well

17 Saturday Aug 2013

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [deep thoughts](#), [giving thanks](#), [ministry](#), [my spiritual journey](#), [spiritual truths](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

Tags

[Parenting](#), [Pastoring](#), [Pioneering](#), [Professional](#)

"Any day spent loving God and loving people is a day well lived." —Stephen Norberg, Foursquare church planter. If at the end of my life I can look back and say that every day of my life I loved God and loved people, then I've lived life well. One way I love God is through giving thanks: delighting in the gifts of now, like soap bubbles glistening, a dad's passing smile, or a friend's hug. As spiritual practice, I keep a gratitude journal: a list of things for which I'm thankful. I'm up to more than 1,800!

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### Where Is God In a Friend's Murder-Suicide

16 Friday Aug 2013

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [deep thoughts](#), [spiritual truths](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

Tags

[Pastoring](#)

*A man in our church is good friends with Muni. He stayed at Muni's house last month—Muni was in Israel attending his brother's funeral (his brother committed suicide). You may have heard of Muni: last week he murdered his son before taking his own life. <http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/nation/2013/08/11/father-kills-son-wives/2641333/>*

*When the monsters in the news take on a human face, when you are aware of their despair and hopelessness, you can't help but move from judgment to empathy and conviction. Oh, if only Muni had had an ounce of hope. He wasn't a monster. He was in despair.*

*I was moved deeply by the truth, revelation, and compassion of the man in our church as he wrote to tell us about Muni. I want to share those insights with you—*

As I went for a walk, trying to make sense of the senseless, it occurred to me that God sees it all, whether He wants to or not, whether we tell Him or not.

He is the one who sees.

He has to see the senseless, the hateful, the contemptible, the awful and all the rest.

And even though He's able to stop it all, He can't stop everything because He wants to give us a choice whether or not to choose Him, because if there's no choice, it's not really love.

So in a sense, that poor child died so that I would have an opportunity to choose God.

It gave me a glimpse of how valuable I am to God.

I don't know exactly how it all works, but it is very hard being God.

I know it's not something I'm really able to do, but I want to make the depravity of this world just a little less total by living for God.

I want to let Him have His way in my life.

I don't want what happened tonight, and other unspeakably awful things, to happen as often.

I want to be a conduit of blessing.

It's not that I think I could have stopped this: that's not likely.

But intercession puts God into situations in ways we don't entirely understand.

And given that Muni decided everything is hopeless, maybe it's good for me to maintain an attitude of hopefulness.

Even when the unspeakable happens.

After all, a good God is watching, and maybe there's just a chance that I can make what He sees a bit less painful.

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### Harley Fans

15 Thursday Aug 2013

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [funny](#), [kid stories](#), [personal](#), [raising kids](#)

≈ [1 Comment](#)

Tags

[Parenting](#)

My parents were bikers. They were going to name me Harley if I was a boy...

I grew up a Harley girl. Played for the House of Harley ice hockey team. Hope to get a bike one day (waiting for Niki to be ok with it).

So imagine my delight when Button just said to me, "When I grow up I'm going to marry a guy whose last name is Davidson. And then I'm going to name my daughter Harley!"

You go girl!

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### My Dad's Take on Raising Me

13 Tuesday Aug 2013

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [funny](#), [kid stories](#), [raising kids](#)

≈ [1 Comment](#)

Tags

[Parenting](#)

I was telling my dad how I'll need a vacation after this vacation just to get a break from the kids.

He laughed and said, "Yeah, but then they grow up and move away and marry people and then you think, 'Man, I really miss my kids.'"

"And then they come home and visit and tell you what they're going to do with you when you're old..."

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

← Older posts

Search:

### Follow Blog

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 904 other followers

### Recent Posts

- [Being Blind and Carrying Car Keys](#)
- [More relationsh...](#)
- [Another Open Letter to President Obama](#)
- [You Can't Make This Up](#)
- [Button's Take on Birth Control](#)

### Archives

- [October 2013](#)
- [September 2013](#)
- [August 2013](#)
- [June 2013](#)
- [May 2013](#)
- [April 2013](#)
- [March 2013](#)
- [February 2013](#)
- [January 2013](#)
- [December 2012](#)
- [November 2012](#)
- [October 2012](#)
- [September 2012](#)
- [August 2012](#)
- [July 2012](#)
- [June 2012](#)
- [May 2012](#)
- [April 2012](#)
- [March 2012](#)
- [January 2012](#)
- [December 2011](#)
- [November 2011](#)
- [October 2011](#)
- [September 2011](#)
- [August 2011](#)
- [July 2011](#)
- [April 2011](#)
- [March 2011](#)
- [February 2011](#)
- [January 2011](#)
- [December 2010](#)
- [November 2010](#)
- [October 2010](#)
- [September 2010](#)
- [August 2010](#)
- [July 2010](#)
- [June 2010](#)
- [May 2010](#)
- [April 2010](#)
- [March 2010](#)
- [February 2010](#)
- [January 2010](#)
- [December 2009](#)
- [November 2009](#)
- [October 2009](#)
- [September 2009](#)
- [August 2009](#)
- [July 2009](#)
- [June 2009](#)
- [May 2009](#)
- [March 2009](#)
- [February 2009](#)
- [January 2009](#)
- [December 2008](#)
- [November 2008](#)
- [October 2008](#)
- [September 2008](#)
- [August 2008](#)
- [July 2008](#)
- [June 2008](#)
- [May 2008](#)
- [April 2008](#)
- [March 2008](#)
- [February 2008](#)
- [January 2008](#)
- [December 2007](#)
- [November 2007](#)
- [October 2007](#)
- [September 2007](#)
- [August 2007](#)
- [July 2007](#)
- [June 2007](#)
- [May 2007](#)
- [April 2007](#)
- [March 2007](#)
- [February 2007](#)
- [January 2007](#)

### Categories

Select Category

[Blog at WordPress.com](#). [The Chateau Theme](#).

[Follow](#)

Follow "Kelly Tshibaka"

Get every new post delivered to your Inbox.

Join 904 other followers

Powered by [WordPress.com](#)

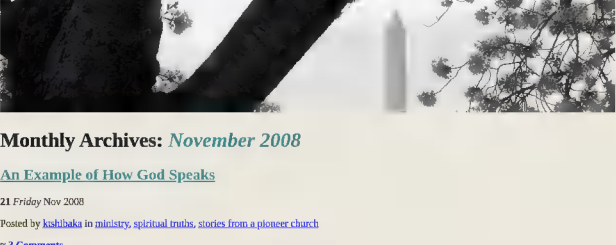
%d bloggers like this:

- [About](#)
- [Resources](#)
- [Speaking](#)

## Kelly Tshibaka

### ~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional

Search [search...]



## Monthly Archives: *November 2008*

### [An Example of How God Speaks](#)

21 Friday Nov 2008

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [ministry, spiritual truths, stories from a pioneer church](#)

≈ [1 Comments](#)

I was having coffee with some friends in church. One of them was asking us whether she should take a particular job at a church. It was her dream job in every way, but there was a little funky thing here and a little funky thing there that made her wonder whether she should take it.

The whole time she was talking, I was listening with one ear to her and listening with the other ear to God. I was at a loss as to what to advise. I was saying in my spirit, "God, I'm sure I have read something in the Bible this week that applies to this situation, but what is it?" None of the passages I studied seemed to apply at all!

There was something she said though that concerned me greatly about the church, so I advised that she not take the job. And right at the end of my comment, an obscure verse I read this week popped into my head (I read this verse to inform my study of a passage in Luke). So I opened my Bible and read it to her: "He opens doors and no one can shut them; he shuts doors, and no one can open them." Rev. 3:7. I told her I believed God shut the door here – and had in previous, similar situations – and that she should not try to open it.

At that point our coffee time was over. We went our separate ways, but later that day she sent this note:

*I wanted to share something with you all that happened after our meeting today. SO WEIRD! I think our God is just absolutely amazing and he can reach even those of us who are the most hard-headed!*

*So I left our meeting this morning. On the way back to pick up my car, I'm praying to God, "You know, I really want this job. I think I want to take it. How can a position in a church be bad? How can it NOT be something I'm supposed to take? How can you close a door that I really, really, really want to go through?" To which there was no answer...at least not at that time.*

*As the day went on, we went on our field trip to the printing press. Oddly enough, they had a man lead us on our field trip/tour through the printing press who had only worked there for a year. He said that he didn't normally lead groups through--his normal job was in sales, but because he had experience in the actual printing side of things, they asked him to lead us on the tour.*

*So, we are sitting there at the beginning of the tour in a conference room and he is going through the story of how he ended up in the printing business. He talked about how he had never thought of owning his own printing company, but that God kept opening these doors left and right. I'll leave out all the details of that... Anyway, he said the door God opened was for him to open his own print company. From there, he gained experience, owned his own printing company from 2001 to 2007, and then came to work for Mosaic, and how it's the best job he's ever had. He then said that had he not walked through the doors God had opened for him, he would have ended up on a different path.*

*The whole time, my class was looking at him like, "Why is this fruitcake sharing his life story and talking about God?" But he completely had my attention! I thought, "Well, that's pretty cool. Here I am struggling with what doors to go through, which route to take and here he is talking about how God opened certain doors for him and closed other ones."*

*I still wasn't convinced, but then he said something like, "You know, I think the Lord just opened the door for me that I was supposed to go through. There's this scripture in Revelation that talks about how there are doors that God opens that no one can close and doors that God closes that no one can open." He didn't quote the scripture exactly, but it was enough for me to know that it was the same one Kelly had recited this morning. It took everything in me to not stand up, looking like a crazy woman and scream, "AMEN!" But alas, I held onto my sanity and stayed seated and poised. lol!*

*I just had to share with you all... It was a great day for me. And starting it with you all made it even better.*

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### [I Love Daddy Most](#)

20 Thursday Nov 2008

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [kid stories, raising kids, women's topics](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

Out of the blue, Button said, "Mama! I love daddy more than any other person in the whole world!"

I laughed, "Really? Even more than mommy?"

She didn't hesitate, "Yep. I love daddy the most!"

"That's good, Button. I love daddy the most, too."

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### [Who Runs This House?](#)

20 Thursday Nov 2008

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [kid stories, raising kids](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

Slah was making all kinds of demands on me. He didn't want his dinner this way, he wanted it that way. He wasn't going to drink water, he was going to drink milk. It just kept going on and on.

That kind of disrespect is unacceptable in our house. So I decided to nip it in the bud by saying, "Hey – who runs this house???" thinking he's respond, "Mama" and that would put an end to it all. But instead, he responded, "Jesus."

Well, I couldn't argue with that!

I laughed and affirmed him -- "Yes, Jesus runs this house, and Jesus says to respect your mother and father. And when you start making all these demands and talking to me with that kind of attitude, that's disrespecting. Jesus doesn't like that."

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### [Love You Too](#)

20 Thursday Nov 2008

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [kid stories](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

Slah was sitting on Niki's lap while Niki was putting on his shoes. Niki said to him, "I love you, Slah." Slah smiled coyly at Niki and said, "I love you, too, Mistah."

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### [Church Anniversary](#)

20 Thursday Nov 2008

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [stories from a pioneer church](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

Our fellowship started on November 19th, 2 years ago. Happy Anniversary to us! This day holds incredible significance to me and Niki because the people in our fellowship hold such a special place in our hearts. We are so delighted to be part of our church.

We received an incredibly encouraging note from one of the women in our fellowship. To me, it was so meaningful:

Congratulations!! Woo Hoo -- 2 Years!!

I am so grateful to you both for placing your faith in following God's plans to plant Mount Vernon Foursquare Fellowship. My family has grown so much within our first year of attendance -- we've grown together spiritually and have come to develop valued friendships with the members of MVFF.

I knew from the moment we stepped into your house that we would be part of something amazing. I could definitely feel the Holy Spirit at work. I love the welcoming and intimate atmosphere and close-knit family group -- it was just what we needed, being so far away from home.

Thank God that we have found our new home at MVFF. I am very excited to see what new things God has in store for the upcoming year.

Thank you so much for all you do.

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### [Bubby's Passing](#)

18 Tuesday Nov 2008

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [kid stories, raising kids, spiritual truths, stories from a pioneer church, women's topics](#)

≈ [1 Comment](#)

In the early morning of November 15, 2008, Bubby went to be with the Lord. I am so thankful that I got to say goodbye to her the day before, and to tell her what she meant to me and to so many others. And that the kids got to give her lots of kisses and tell her goodbye themselves.

Bubby's passing has been really hard for me. But Button made some comments on the morning of the 15th that have lifted my spirits over these last several days.

After the kids got up that morning, Niki pulled them together and said he needed to talk with them. He told them Bubby had gone to heaven last night.

Button asked, "How did she get there, Daddy?"

"Jesus came and got her in the middle of the night and took her there," he said.

Button was surprised. "We didn't see him, Daddy!!!" she said, as if Jesus were like Santa Claus.

He laughed, "No, I know you didn't. He came when you were sleeping."

Button paused. Then this look of great excitement came over her face. "Daddy?! Is Bubby going to see Moses and Noah and Samson??!!"

He laughed again. "Yes, Button. I suppose she already has seen them."

Button was now bubbling over with enthusiasm. "Oh, I just can't WAIT until I get to go to Heaven, too!!"

"Yes, in due time, Button. We'll all see them."

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### [Uh Oh](#)

18 Tuesday Nov 2008

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [kid stories](#)

≈ [1 Comment](#)

Within the last couple weeks, Slah has transitioned to big boy underwear instead of diapers.

The other day, he ran into Bubby's room, struck his "Iron Man" pose, and said, "Look at me, Bubby! I wear my BIG BOY pants!" While still in the "Iron Man" pose, he froze, looked up in alarm, and said, "UH OH!!" Then he looked down -- his pants were all wet!

Bubby and Cici were laughing so hard!

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### [Tips for Teaching the Bible](#)

18 Tuesday Nov 2008

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [ministry, spiritual truths, stories from a pioneer church](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

Some more tips for teaching the Bible:

- Talk slowly. It makes it easier for your audience to follow you. Remember -- this likely is the first time they have heard this material or thought about this passage. Incorporate as much audience participation as possible. For information they can figure out themselves, lead them by asking them questions (the Socratic method) and let them answer -- preferably aloud. If it's not appropriate for the audience to answer questions aloud, provide them an opportunity to participate by filling in blanks in an outline. This facilitates application and understanding of the material. Think of all the leading questions Jesus posed, and use that as your model.
- When preparing to teach on a passage, if another passage of Scripture comes to mind for some reason -- or is referred to in a commentary you are studying -- then study that passage, too. Chances are God is revealing a truth to you for you to pass on to your audience. There will be some connection in that passage to the deeper truth/message He wants to communicate through the passage you are teaching on.
- If you aren't or have not applied it, don't teach it. It's got to be relevant to what you've been through -- and ideally, to what you presently are going through.

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### [A BIG BIG DAY](#)

17 Monday Nov 2008

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [adoption](#)

≈ [1 Comment](#)

I want to write more on this later, but it was really important for me to capture this today: This morning I submitted the final documents for our dossier. I previously had submitted it in September, but had to re-do a couple of them, including apply for a whole new passport. I finally finished everything and got it formalized. So today was it. Today was the big day.

Assuming there are no more issues with the paperwork, we now begin the process of waiting for our child.

Oh, yes, and today is my sister's birthday. There's just something really special for me about that -- for the paperwork to be finished and for this concept to become a reality on the day one of the most special people in the world was born. It could have happened any time, but it happened on one of the best days of the year. I didn't plan it this way, but I have a sneakin' hunch that God did. It's like this child is already a part of our family -- even sharing our special days -- and s/he is not even here yet!

But s/he will be soon. With great expectation, I will wait.

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### [A Word of Encouragement to Step Out in Faith vis a vis Our Building Space](#)

17 Monday Nov 2008

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [Notes for Pastor's Wife, stories from a pioneer church](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

*[This is a note from one of our church members regarding a financial big step of faith we are going to have to take in order to move into a new church building.]*

I praise God today. I came home and prayed a quick prayer that God's name will be glorified in all of this (these challenges and this step in faith). You both know I am not at all a biblically versed person, but God quickly led me to these verses that I felt I should share with you in all of this:

- 1 Praise the Lord.
- Sing to the Lord a new song, his praise in the assembly of the saints.
- 2 Let Israel rejoice in their Maker; let the people of Zion be glad in their King.
- 3 Let them praise his name with dancing and make music to him with tambourine and harp.
- 4 For the Lord takes delight in his people; he crowns the humble with salvation.
- 5 Let the saints rejoice in this honor and sing for joy on their beds.

- Psalm 149:1-5

I praise God for this step in faith; that all these steps you both continue to lead us in are going to glorify God. I cannot wait for this next step. It is exciting to take a step in faith and not stepping into the limits of man. It is exciting to HAVE to trust in Him, the Almighty Father who is the only one who can make the "numbers" make sense, even when they don't on paper.

Praise God and thank you both for leading us so faithfully, lovingly, and with such confidence.

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

– Older posts

Search: [search...]

### Follow Blog

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 904 other followers

### Recent Posts

- [Being Blind and Carrying Car Keys](#)
- [More relations...](#)
- [November Open Letter to President Obama](#)
- [You Can't Make This Up](#)
- [Button's Take on Birth Control](#)

### Archives

- [October 2013](#)
- [September 2013](#)
- [August 2013](#)
- [June 2013](#)
- [May 2013](#)
- [April 2013](#)
- [March 2013](#)
- [February 2013](#)
- [January 2013](#)
- [December 2012](#)
- [November 2012](#)
- [October 2012](#)
- [September 2012](#)
- [August 2012](#)
- [July 2012](#)
- [June 2012](#)
- [May 2012](#)
- [April 2012](#)
- [March 2012](#)
- [January 2012](#)
- [December 2011](#)
- [November 2011](#)
- [October 2011](#)
- [September 2011](#)
- [August 2011](#)
- [July 2011](#)
- [April 2011](#)
- [March 2011](#)
- [February 2011](#)
- [January 2011](#)
- [December 2010](#)
- [November 2010](#)
- [October 2010](#)
- [September 2010](#)
- [August 2010](#)
- [July 2010](#)
- [June 2010](#)
- [May 2010](#)
- [April 2010](#)
- [March 2010](#)
- [February 2010](#)
- [January 2010](#)
- [December 2009](#)
- [November 2009](#)
- [October 2009](#)
- [September 2009](#)
- [August 2009](#)
- [July 2009](#)
- [June 2009](#)
- [May 2009](#)
- [March 2009](#)
- [February 2009](#)
- [January 2009](#)
- [December 2008](#)
- [November 2008](#)
- [October 2008](#)
- [September 2008](#)
- [August 2008](#)
- [July 2008](#)
- [June 2008](#)
- [May 2008](#)
- [April 2008](#)
- [March 2008](#)
- [February 2008](#)
- [January 2008](#)
- [December 2007](#)
- [November 2007](#)
- [October 2007](#)
- [September 2007](#)
- [August 2007](#)
- [July 2007](#)
- [June 2007](#)
- [May 2007](#)
- [April 2007](#)
- [March 2007](#)
- [February 2007](#)
- [January 2007](#)

### Categories

Select Category

[Blog at WordPress.com: The Chateau Theme.](#)

[Follow](#)

### Follow "Kelly Tshibaka"

Get every new post delivered to your Inbox.

Join 904 other followers

Powered by [WordPress.com](#)  
%d bloggers like this:



[About](#)  
[Features](#)  
[Speaking](#)

## Kelly Tshibaka

### ~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional



## Monthly Archives: *October 2009*

### Priceless

29 Thursday 9 Oct 2009

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [personal](#), [women's topics](#), [worldly matters](#)

≈ [1 Comment](#)

Cost of sleep to get to work early to work on complex project with looming deadline: 1 hour.

Cost of extra work to be done because you left mid-day: 4 hours.

Cost of afternoon with your sister on a delightfully sunny day at the National Harbor on her last day in town: priceless!

Share this:

- [Facebook](#)
- [Twitter](#)
- [LinkedIn](#)
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### Note from Woman in Church

21 Wednesday Oct 2009

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [Notes for Pastor's Wife](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

I love you so much and I am so thankful that God has placed me in your life and vice versa... I am so weak and it really helps to have a friend who's "been there" and has overcome (at least the part I'm struggling with right now).

Share this:

- [Facebook](#)
- [Twitter](#)
- [LinkedIn](#)
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### Cohort

21 Wednesday Oct 2009

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [word](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

Pronunciation: /kɔː-ˈhɔːrt/

Function: noun

Etymology: Middle English, from Latin cohort-, cohorts — more at [cohort](#)

Date: 15th century

1 a : one of 10 divisions of an ancient Roman legion b : a group of warriors or soldiers c : [band](#), [group](#) d : a group of individuals having a statistical factor (as age or class membership) in common

2 : [company](#), [colleague](#)

So then a "cohort of women" in a church context could be a group of spiritual warriors or soldiers?

Share this:

- [Facebook](#)
- [Twitter](#)
- [LinkedIn](#)
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### Scuttlebutt

21 Wednesday Oct 2009

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [word](#)

≈ [1 Comment](#)

scuttlebutt /SKUHT-ˈbuht/, noun:

1. A drinking fountain on a ship.
2. A cask on a ship that contains the day's supply of drinking water.
3. *Informal.* Gossip; rumor.

Whoda thunk? Sounds like it was the original word for "water cooler chat."

Share this:

- [Facebook](#)
- [Twitter](#)
- [LinkedIn](#)
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### Some More Thoughts on Fantasy Literature from Mel (relates to my previous posting on "Twilight")

21 Wednesday Oct 2009

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [general](#), [spiritual truths](#), [worldly matters](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

Hi Kelly!

I thought you might be interested in a letter I sent my mother-in-law when she was having difficulties explaining to some people in her church why the Harry Potter books were so bad, worse than the Ring Trilogy or Narnia. It contains a bit of my testimony – God saved me out of witchcraft (and a whole bunch of other stuff too – He's very amazing that way.)

This fascinate with evil (and the belief at the same time that it is not really evil... or even real) is rather epidemic in Christians today. I would love to stamp it out. Perhaps the oddest thing I have found is people's reaction when I try to discuss my view of it... they get offended, as if I just told them that they're the scum of the earth, simple over a novel they have read. This indicates to me how deeply people identify themselves with these works of fiction... or is it something else? If I could find a way to tell people of the dangers of this evil without triggering this sense of offense, I would be very happy. So many of my friends are stuck in it and getting deeper, regardless of my warnings.

Anyway, just thought I would share...

Hello Mom!

All right, I'll buckle down and make some time for the Harry Potter discussion... To preface this, I have not read any of the Harry Potter books, although I did see two of the movies. But here is my opinion, based on my experience and some study I've done. Please share it where and when you believe it is appropriate.

I believe all fantasy books involving magic are potentially spiritually dangerous, especially to the vulnerable, i.e. children and anyone who is not well-grounded spiritually and are on guard against the wiles of the devil – our very clever enemy. This includes books written by C.S. Lewis and J.R.R. Tolkien. However, I do believe that the Narnia books and the Ring series are delightful, wonderful literature that should be read and enjoyed, with one caveat – the parents need to be involved, either 1) supervising the reading (or even reading it together) and discussing God's view and the book's view on magic or 2) making sure their children are spiritually mature enough to come to these conclusion on their own, i.e. previous discussions on magic and evidence in the discuss that their children comprehend God's view of it.

With that said, I got into magic/witchcraft through reading the Fellowship of the Ring. It, in and of itself, did not make me go around casting spells, etc. but it was a good book... and I was too young (I think I was 12 or so) (and I did not have anyone around to tell me otherwise) to realize that it was because of the epic nature in the Scrum of the earth, simple over a novel they have read. This indicates to me how deeply people identify themselves with these works of fiction... or is it something else? If I could find a way to tell people of the dangers of this evil without triggering this sense of offense, I would be very happy. So many of my friends are stuck in it and getting deeper, regardless of my warnings.

Some of these books were quite "innocent" in the aspect that they did not contain specific details about how the magic worked and some were so specific that they could have been (and as I later found out, were) text books for magicians, witches, and warlocks. Quite a lot of them were "Young Adult" novels, in fact, the one that made me give magic a try was one. And this was only a couple of months after reading the Fellowship that I started practicing. I had no one to show me how; I experimented with what I saw. It was fascinating, intriguing, and exciting. It was more than just a story, it was a very real way to have control over my out of control life.

I was "discovered" by another witch in my sophomore year of high school when she also felt me using magic on her. And so I became involved in her group and got deeper and deeper, as one always does. Witchcraft is like drugs... anyone who says they can use it and say they are not addicted is a liar. It draws you in, entangling you more and more until you are completely trapped and there is no out (aside from God, that is). I was increasingly tormented by the demons I sought to control, until I heard these voices taunting me constantly. And no, I was not mentally ill. I knew these creatures well, as I had called them to me through my magic, although at first I did not recognize them as demons. Later on, I did recognize them for what they were and still called them, seeking to control them as they did in the books I read.

I eventually left my group and tried to stop practicing to get them to stop, but by then it was too late, I had sold myself to them for a little power... (And yes, God did show up and save me, buying me back with His blood). All this because the enemy used the Fellowship of the Ring, a good book with a great moral, to draw me into an area God wants to keep us away from, to protect us.

I do all this to illustrate what can happen when one indulges in a little "innocent" childhood reading... and I was 12. Many of these children are much younger reading Harry Potter, and I doubt that any of their parents are supervising their reading and discussing its intent. And I know for a fact that many, when they finish the series, are hooked and want to read more magic books, some of which get very hard core, even the ones for children. And Harry Potter's portrayal of magic is so incredibly different than the Ring series or Narnia. Parents should be able to dissect a books view point on magic.

For instance: The role of magic in the Narnia is only used for good by Aslan, and for evil by the witch. And the magic Aslan uses is the "deep magic" i.e. the sacrifice and shedding of his blood, which is stronger than the magic of the witch. It is more than good triumphing over evil, it is God triumphing over evil with the stronger greater power of his sacrifice. It shows God and His power triumphing over the magic. The children only use magical objects, not magic itself, and they are gifts from Aslan to corrupt evil and to heal the damage it does. You experience the story from the point of view of the children, one is drawn to the children – not magical creatures. The reader wants to be the children, not the workers of magic. This all takes place in a different world/dimension.

The role of magic in the Lord of the Rings – it is wielded by the wizards, (Gandalf, Saruman), who are not mortals (humans or hobbits), but are Istari, who were sent to Middle Earth to fight Sauron who is evil incarnate. But evil is not conquered by magic in the end, but by resisting magic and destroying it. When Frodo uses the magical object he has, it draws evil. Magic is only used in dire situations – irresistibly and unusually fascinated with the entire subject (my unusual fascination is the male reason why I'm not a homicide detective this day). It also reminds me of how many people respond to the current series, *Twilight*.

The role of magic in Harry Potter (from what I've seen in the movies and reading articles and essays on the books) – Magic is common place and part of our world, albeit it is hidden (a very intriguing concept for a child). Children who are born into magical families are let into a magical school where they are taught to use magic in everyday tasks and play, while non-magical people (muggles) are portrayed as cruel, stupid, and oblivious to the "real" world of magic. Magic saves the day in all of the plots as far as I have seen. It is told from the point of view of the magician – the reader want to be Harry – the wizard.

A good analogy of the three can be found at: <http://www.deceditfilms.com/sections/articles/magic.html> and is worth the read, although it is a slightly different conclusion than I have.

Here is my reasoning why it is wrong as Christians to have an interest books featuring magic:

1. God abhors magic/witchcraft and has specifically forbidden it amongst His people: Deut. 18:10
2. Therefore, magic is evil.
3. God has commanded us to also hate what is evil and dwell on what is good: Romans 12:9
4. By extension, we should hate magic as Christians, not just as a fascination with it as the world does.

That seems simple enough to me.

The idea of tolerating magic as a literary device seems odd to me – we as Christians try to shield our children from violence, profanity, vulgarity, etc. but all of those have been used as "literary devices" to get a point across. And yet magic is a sin we tolerate in our entertainment.... And children don't always get the concept of literary devices, anyway.

Share this:

- [Facebook](#)
- [Twitter](#)
- [LinkedIn](#)
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### Drugs and Witchcraft

20 Tuesday Oct 2009

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [deep thoughts](#), [healing](#), [ministry](#), [spiritual truths](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

As defined by Webster's – Witchcraft: 1 a : the use of sorcery or magic b : communication with the devil or with a familiar; 2 : an irresistible influence or fascination.

Well, this expanded my understanding of what the Bible means when it talks about witchcraft. It's more than just potions and spells, it's also communicating with the devil (demons) and departed spirits (ghosts, memories of people, etc.) and it's an irresistible influence or *fascination*. Wow – like a mind or emotion addiction! Which reminds me of how I once responded to homicide investigations – irresistibly and unusually fascinated with the entire subject (my unusual fascination is the male reason why I'm not a homicide detective this day). It also reminds me of how many people respond to the current series, *Twilight*.

But on to another recent revelation: There is a link between drugs and witchcraft. Our word "pharmacy" for example, comes from the Latin word *pharmakon*, which means "magic charm" or "poison." Perhaps this explains why many people who have used illegal drugs experience demonic oppression. Perhaps this also explains why things of "witchcraft" (see above) are so addictive – like a drug. And why God is so unwavering about people avoiding witchcraft, even to the point that He considers witchcraft to be an abomination.

Share this:

- [Facebook](#)
- [Twitter](#)
- [LinkedIn](#)
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### Why Didn't I Think of That Before? Thoughts on Vision From Dr. D (Pastor Daniel Brown)

19 Monday Oct 2009

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [Church](#), [ministry](#), [spiritual truths](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

Leaders cannot construct a vision. We cannot put one together in the same way we might piece together a strategy or action plan. We do not make a vision or dream one up or create one from within ourselves. Real visions for our churches/organizations are things of revelation. We may collect data, make observations, study a problem, and even dream about an ideal future.

I do all these things all the time. I mull things over in my mind and heart, sifting them with Bible verses and swirling them around with prayer the way an old prospector pans for gold. I think, I ask, I consider options. I strategize and pour through numerous scenarios in my mind. But those activities cannot generate vision. They are important leadership activities, but they do not spawn vision.

Vision is something I receive in a moment in time (or in several clustered moments in time). I remember what my thoughts/ideas were like before the vision, and I can see how they have become marvelously reordered after the new vision has clarified and rearranged them. I'll put it another way. The vision changes the way I have been thinking—it does not result from that thinking! "Of course," I say to myself in the moments after getting the vision, "Why didn't I think of that sooner?"

The answer, of course, is that I didn't think of it myself. Like Jesus said to Peter, "Flesh and blood did not reveal this to you..." Vision for an organization is a form of revelation, dependent on God's Spirit to unfold something of God's plan for that church or ministry. What sparks it, exactly, or when it happens, I cannot say. But when it comes, it ignites several additional thoughts/revelations.

A vision is a catalyst. If your vision does not automatically spawn, almost instantly, fresh initiatives and more action plans, it probably isn't much of a vision. Because vision points an organization to its future, the vision ought to press your awareness toward new horizons. I know that sounds a bit ethereal. Imagine your church-as-it-is-now as you standing in the midst of a densely packed crowd of people. You are pressed up against three or four other people with whom you might have a conversation. But you are hemmed in and limited to those few. If the space suddenly cleared around you in a ten foot diameter, how many people would ring the enlarged, open space? You would be able to move about and talk with ten to fifteen people. Each of those people represent a new horizon of possibilities.

If your vision isn't opening up possibilities that never occurred to you before, it isn't much of a vision.

Share this:

- [Facebook](#)
- [Twitter](#)
- [LinkedIn](#)
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### What Niki Overheard the Other Morning

19 Monday Oct 2009

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [kid stories](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

The kids were putting their shoes on, and getting ready to leave and heard Josiah (with great zest): "MUHA-HA-HA-HA-HA!"

Hmmmm! I wonder where he got that one! ☺

Share this:

- [Facebook](#)
- [Twitter](#)
- [LinkedIn](#)
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### Thoughts on Twilight for Christians

18 Sunday Oct 2009

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [recommendations](#), [spiritual truths](#), [worldly matters](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

*(Here is a head to toe in the section to our following following an off-kshibaka, but stronger-than-ever-to-be comment I made at a women's event about the series "Twilight")*

Hi, Ladies-

I wanted to follow-up on the comment I made about *Twilight* yesterday at our ladies' brunch – that *Twilight* is evil and we should not read or watch it. First, I'm sorry for being abrupt about it, for not giving an explanation, and for (perhaps) coming across as heavy-handed. My strong reaction is based on your spiritual health, and not because this is a "thou shalt not" or in any other way legalistic burden I want to impose on you. But I'm afraid I came across that way. For that I am so sorry.

I'd like to explain in more detail why this series concerns me, for those who are interested. I believe that entertaining, meddling with, and being fascinated by things of the enemy invites bondage and spiritual oppression into your lives and the lives of those around you. I love you very much, and I don't want that to happen to any of you.

It does not matter that the vampires in these books don't fit the classic vampire mold. The characters' intentions, heart, faith, and how people respond to the series are irrelevant, as are the intentions and heart of those who read/see this series. There is something far more insidious and misleading going on here. This isn't an issue that the Lord takes lightly or considers harmless entertainment.

The vampires in these books live by drinking blood from other creatures. The Bible prohibits this, because the life of every creature is in its blood – blood is life (Lev. 17:14). So vampires live forever by taking life from (or causing death in) others. In this, they are counterfeiters of Jesus – vampires take blood to attain eternal life. Jesus gave His blood to give us eternal life. The underlying premise of these leading characters is a perversion of the holy communion offered to us by Jesus – Jesus instructs us that "Whoever eats My flesh and drinks My blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up at the last day." (John 6:54). In contrast, the focus in this series is on characters who secure eternal life by drinking other people's blood. This is all demonic at its core!

The fact that the main character wrestles with this tortured existence is irrelevant. The novels throw readers into a world surrounded by the counterfeit to – and the antithesis of – everything Jesus. It glamorizes a character – and way of life – that promotes eternal life attained through Jesus but through death; by corpse. It also leaves us open to the enemy's attacks. We need to be careful about what we put in our minds and hearts, and we need to be careful not to set up stumbling blocks for other believers' faith (Rom. 14:13). Whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable – if anything is excellent or praiseworthy – think about such things. (Phil. 4:8)

Some say this book is harmless, that it promotes Christian values, and that it does not promote anything wicked at all. But Satan does not usually look repulsive, horrific, and evil on the outside. Remember – he masquerades as an angel of light (2 Cor. 11:14) and he was the most beautiful of all angels before he was expelled from heaven. The only way alive of mankind can be so consistently and repeatedly lured into temptation and sin is precisely because it doesn't look, feel, or seem evil at all – on its face.

Moreover, we know from scripture that Jesus doesn't like or even tolerate the enemy promoting Him, identifying His truths, or advocating His values. He even silenced demon-possessed people who proclaimed Him as the Messiah: *Moreover, demons came out of many people, shouting, "You are the Son of God!" But he rebuked them and would not allow them to speak, because they knew he was the Christ.* (Lk. 4:41) Jesus doesn't need, nor can He be, glorified through evil.

My concern comes down to this: What are followers of Jesus exposing their minds, hearts, and souls to when they entertain this kind of media in their lives? Is it not the very enemy of Christ? I believe that entertaining and participating in these kinds of activities leaves us spiritually vulnerable. It also leaves us open to the enemy's attacks. We need to be careful about what we put in our minds and hearts, and we need to be careful not to set up stumbling blocks for other believers' faith (Rom. 14:13). Whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable – if anything is excellent or praiseworthy – think about such things. (Phil. 4:8)

Instead of focusing on vampires, the dead, etc., my heart is that all people would focus on God, His love for us, and His daily guidance and workings in our lives. I wish that were far more fascinating to people than anything this series could say. While I respect that we all have a choice in what we will indulge in, I'm mindful of something the Bible says in situations like these: *Everything is permissible, but not everything is beneficial.* (1 Cor. 10:23) I don't want any of us caught up in stuff that's going to hurt us or our relationship with the Lord.

Hebrews recently noted that a message that C.S. Lewis said that every decision we make is full of spiritual consequence: it either makes us more holy or more hellish. But no actions are neutral. If that's true, then which one does *Twilight* make people more like? In the same vein, great Christian apologist Ravi Zacharias summed up the series in two words: "It's evil."

Make no mistake: *Twilight* is a perfect example of how the enemy twists, perverts, and ridicules the things of God. This is his m.o. This is how he works.

Here are some verses on these topics for those who would like them:

On what God thinks about things like this: *No, but the sacrifices of pagans are offered to demons, not to God, and I do not want you to be participants with demons. You cannot drink the cup of the Lord and the cup of demons too; you cannot have a part in both the Lord's table and the table of demons. Are we trying to arouse the Lord's jealousy? Are we stronger than he? (1 Cor. 10:20-24)*

On Christ: *How much more, then, will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself unblemished to God, cleanse our consciences from acts that lead to death, so that we may serve the living God! (Heb. 9:14)*

On Satan: *Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. (1 Pet. 5:8)*

Share this:

- [Facebook](#)
- [Twitter](#)
- [LinkedIn](#)
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### Good Reminders

12 Monday Oct 2009

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [spiritual truths](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

What can change:	What cannot change:
Our fellowship with God	Our status as sons/daughters
Our experience of His blessing	His desire for our welfare
Our assurance of His love	His actual affection for us
His delight in our actions	His love for us
His discipline	Our destiny
Our sense of guilt	Our security

Share this:

- [Facebook](#)
- [Twitter](#)
- [LinkedIn](#)
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

— Older posts

Search:

### Follow Blog

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 904 other followers

### Recent Posts

- [Being Blind and Carrying Car Keys](#)
- [Another Open Letter to President Obama](#)
- [You Can't Make This Up](#)
- [Barton's Take on Birth Control](#)

### Archives

- [October 2013](#)
- [September 2013](#)
- [August 2013](#)
- [June 2013](#)
- [May 2013](#)
- [April 2013](#)
- [March 2013](#)
- [February 2013](#)
- [January 2013](#)
- [December 2012](#)
- [November 2012](#)
- [October 2012](#)
- [September 2012](#)
- [August 2012](#)
- [July 2012](#)
- [June 2012](#)
- [May 2012](#)
- [April 2012](#)
- [March 2012](#)
- [January 2012](#)
- [December 2011](#)
- [November 2011](#)
- [October 2011](#)
- [September 2011](#)
- [August 2011](#)
- [July 2011](#)
- [April 2011](#)
- [March 2011](#)
- [February 2011](#)
- [January 2011](#)
- [December 2010](#)
- [November 2010](#)
- [October 2010](#)
- [September 2010](#)
- [August 2010](#)
- [July 2010](#)
- [June 2010](#)
- [May 2010](#)
- [April 2010](#)
- [March 2010](#)
- [February 2010](#)
- [January 2010](#)
- [December 2009](#)
- [November 2009](#)
- [October 2009](#)
- [September 2009](#)
- [August 2009](#)
- [July 2009](#)
- [June 2009](#)
- [May 2009](#)
- [March 2009](#)
- [February 2009](#)
- [January 2009](#)
- [December 2008](#)
- [November 2008](#)
- [October 2008](#)
- [September 2008](#)
- [August 2008](#)
- [July 2008](#)
- [June 2008](#)
- [May 2008](#)
- [April 2008](#)
- [March 2008](#)
- [February 2008](#)
- [January 2008](#)
- [December 2007](#)
- [November 2007](#)
- [October 2007](#)
- [September 2007](#)
- [August 2007](#)
- [July 2007](#)
- [June](#)

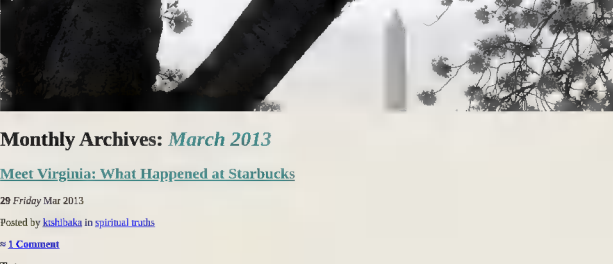


- [About](#)
- [Resources](#)
- [Speaking](#)

## Kelly Tshibaka

### ~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional

Search:



## Monthly Archives: March 2013

### Meet Virginia: What Happened at Starbucks

29 Friday Mar 2013

Posted by [kashbaka in Bible study, Church, ministry, my other day job, my spiritual journey, spiritual truths, stories from a pioneer church](#)

• [1 Comment](#)

**Tags**

[Pastoring](#)

[Reblogged from Juc Isaacs:](#)

Starbucks. Alone. Ear buds and Coldplay. My business is mine. It is the Kingdom. It is preparation time. Thinking about all the souls that will be present as we present the most important truth of history... the eternal truth of Jesus-type. Road. Listen. To what? To...

Meet Virginia.

Reading through the double glass doors in the flurry of a large woman decked out in Eugene paganism meets hippie meets living on the streets.

[Read more... 942 more words](#)

This is the day True Love died. Because there is no greater purpose than loving people. And Jesus showed us the greatest love ever by laying down His life for us. On this day, about 2,000 years ago, 50 of them for my pastor friend Isaac, who stopped preparing his message about the love of God and power of resurrection to He could live it out, right here, right now, in life of a woman named Virginia.

### Betrayal

28 Thursday Mar 2013

Posted by [kashbaka in Bible study, Church, ministry, my other day job, my spiritual journey, spiritual truths, stories from a pioneer church](#)

• [1 Comment](#)

**Tags**

[Pastoring, Pioneer, Professional](#)

Today is the day Jesus was betrayed by Judas. And deserted by all His disciples in His time of greatest need. Today I'm reflecting on betrayal.

I'm freshly struck by Jesus' response to Judas when he arrives with the armed guards and goes over to Jesus and kisses Him on the cheek. Jesus responds with, "Friend, do what you have come for?" (Matthew 26:50) Friend. Jesus wasn't sarcastic. And until this moment, the other disciples did not know the betrayer was Judas. Which means he really was a friend of the Lord. That makes sense — it's the closeness of the relationship that makes it betrayal, after all. It wouldn't hurt so much, or register as a betrayal, if it wasn't Jesus before he would desert Him, but according to scripture all the disciples sold the same thing too. (Matthew 26:35)

And it's also seeing that Jesus did not start reacting to the pain and devastation of the betrayal until after "celebrating" Passover with His disciples. (Matthew 26:37) Even amidst betrayal, but in their practice couldn't overshadow the fun and joy of being with His friends (also known as the church, but the fun of church is a blog for another time).

"Today" is challenged to see whose who have betrayed me in a new Light — to see them as Jesus did. To see them as friends. Not that our relationship will resume, or that even imminent betrayal by a friend won't be my friends AND they betrayed me. Living with that tension seems very Jesus-like to me.

I'm also challenged with knowing that I, too, would desert and deny Jesus. I might not actively seek His suffering as Judas did, but I can't imagine I'd do anything different than "all" the disciples — the truth is I probably won't have defamed Him or join Him in His suffering. Ouch, that's hard. And here's something harder — I am realizing that I have grouped "Peters" in my life together with "Judas." They may not have initially wanted the betrayal, but they sure didn't do anything to stop it or to help me in it. But Jesus reassured Peter at His own cost (His death and resurrection). Jesus didn't see Peter and Judas as the same. And He had ultimate grace and love for Peter. Can I do the same for those who haven't helped me in my suffering, but abandoned me in it?

And, Lord, how I'd love to live like you do — to be so caught up in the encouraging, fun, life-giving moments of now that I am incapable of being betrayed by betrayal (past, present, or future) and it is immaterially upon me.

Thank you, Jesus, for enduring betrayal for us.

**Share this:**

- [Facebook](#)
- [Twitter](#)
- [LinkedIn](#)
- [Pinterest](#)
- [More](#)

**Like this:**

Like Loading...

### Button Leads Worship

24 Sunday Mar 2013

Posted by [kashbaka in discipling, kid stories, ministry, raising kids](#)

• [2 Comments](#)

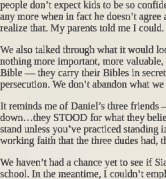
**Tags**

[Pastoring](#)

Today Button led worship for the first time. She has been expressing an interest in it for a while. It took some time to get to this point, though. We had to learn that worship happens as much from the heart as it does from the stage. If she can't worship from the kids, then she can't lead worship from the stage. That took months.

We who had to help her learn that worship isn't something you just do for fun. It is a commitment, and a sacrifice. For example, she had to make the effort to get up super early to get there in time practice. And when she wanted to take a break during practice to get something to eat, she couldn't. She had to pick — either have a snack or commit to practice. But you don't get to both: lounge around and also be part of the worship team. You can take a break or you can commit to it, it's your choice. Well, she waited to eat until later and committed herself to the practice.

And I was so very proud of her for leading worship today. She wasn't just singing on stage, she was truly worshipping!



**Share this:**

- [Facebook](#)
- [Twitter](#)
- [LinkedIn](#)
- [Pinterest](#)
- [More](#)

**Like this:**

Like Loading...

### Stiah Challenged for Taking His Bible to School

23 Saturday Mar 2013

Posted by [kashbaka in kid stories, ministry, raising kids, spiritual truths](#)

• [1 Comment](#)

**Tags**

[Pastoring](#)

Unbeknownst to us, Stiah has been taking his Bible to school. He leaves it on his desk and reads it at break times. I think he sometimes takes it to recess and reads it there — or plays "Bible study" with some of his friends. We learned about all of this yesterday, when he let us know that one of the high-level administrators in the school had been visiting his classroom, pointed at the Bible on his desk and said, "I think this one [the Bible] has to stay at home!" Stiah said he responded nonchalantly. "Okay," and kept bringing his Bible because he knew we had told him about his right to take the Bible, read it, and talk about his faith as long as it was in a way that did not disrupt the school's efforts to educate the kids.

As his parents, and with the awareness that he is SO YOUNG, our instinct is to call the school, visit with the principal, and otherwise protest this in a big way to get heavy handed authority figures to let off our kids. But the fact is that we are equipping them to be missionaries to the next generation. There's not a lot of bold, not ashamed-of-the-gospel-of-Christ Christians out there — adults or kids. I want our kids to be counted among them. And there's no better way to learn that in a public school where persecution is inevitable, and will look a lot like what he's going to face in the real world, than his childhood is over. We won't be there to help him then. So rather than run interference for him and protect him from these kind of things, I think the best thing we can do is let him be exposed to them. I want our kids to know how he's going to respond, and serve the role of the church in his life — encouraging him to continue persevering and standing for the faith. That's what it's like when he grows up — the church encourages and strengthens you, backs you up, but on any given day you're not there facing temptation, persecution, and trials on your own.

So we helped him figure out how to respond — it's not helpful for him to directly confront the authority figure. Even if he's right, it's perceived as disrespect because he's so young and because people don't expect kids to be so confident in what they believe. It's also not helpful, though, to respond "Okay" when he doesn't agree because it sounds like he agrees and won't bring his Bible any more when in fact he doesn't agree and will continue to bring his Bible. So we suggested that if someone says he can't bring his Bible he respond with something like, "I'm sorry, I didn't realize that." My parents told me I could. Would you like to call them?"

We also talked through what it would look like if it actually was wrong for him to take his Bible to school. Even if he wasn't allowed to, we would encourage him to if he wanted to. There is nothing more important, more valuable, more powerful than the Word of God and the Name of Jesus. I told him about people who attends every year to create a common thread between all the classes. While we don't give platitudes, we give prayer and prophetic words. While some of our learning came in the form of a lesson, most of it came through small group discussions and interpersonal ministry. In this way we built each other up in the unity of faith and equipped each other for works of service.

It reminds me of Daniel's three friends — Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego. When they refused to bow down to the king's statue/idol in the presence of over a million other subjects bowing down, they STOOD for what they believed despite the incredible pressure to do otherwise. That wasn't the first time they stood for their faith. You can't have that kind of boldness and strength to stand unless you've been standing in much smaller instances over time. I told Stiah this was an opportunity for him to practice standing. If he wants to have the kind of boldness and miracle-working faith that the three dudes had, then he has to practice that kind of boldness and faith now. Stand in the little things and you can stand in the big things.

We haven't had a chance yet to see if Stiah will be challenged again or how he'll respond. I suspect it will happen at some point — we've faced this a couple times now since the kids have been in school. In the meantime, I couldn't emphasize to him enough how proud we are of him for loving God so much that he wants to read His Word at school, for bringing his Bible to school, and for boldly standing for what he believes even in the face of opposition from authority figures.

**Share this:**

- [Facebook](#)
- [Twitter](#)
- [LinkedIn](#)
- [Pinterest](#)
- [More](#)

**Like this:**

Like Loading...

### Highlights from Field Ministry Academy

16 Monday Mar 2013

Posted by [kashbaka in Church, leadership, ministry, my spiritual journey, spiritual truths, stories from a pioneer church](#)

• [2 Comments](#)

**Tags**

[Pastoring, Pioneer](#)

Field Ministry Academy (FMA) is like camp for pastors. We get together for a week, share all meals together, learn a lot about Jesus, and build strong relationships. For the last couple years, Nick and I have gotten to function like "camp counselors" in FMA — we're not a lot of bold, not ashamed-of-the-gospel-of-Christ Christians out there — adults or kids. I want our kids to be counted among them. And there's no better way to learn that in a public school where persecution is inevitable, and will look a lot like what he's going to face in the real world, than his childhood is over. We won't be there to help him then. So rather than run interference for him and protect him from these kind of things, I think the best thing we can do is let him be exposed to them. I want our kids to know how he's going to respond, and serve the role of the church in his life — encouraging him to continue persevering and standing for the faith. That's what it's like when he grows up — the church encourages and strengthens you, backs you up, but on any given day you're not there facing temptation, persecution, and trials on your own.

We just got back from the 5th and final FMA (at least for now). Here were some of the highlights for me this year:

*"People tell me they don't like going to church. I often don't like going to church, either. But I don't go for me. I go for them."*

*—Pastor*

**Fellowship**

FMA facilitates fellowship, not superficial socializing. We don't impose teachings on each other; we offer our stories to each other. We don't parade our facades, we invite each other into our lives. We don't give platitudes; we give prayer and prophetic words. While some of our learning came in the form of a lesson, most of it came through small group discussions and interpersonal ministry. In this way we built each other up in the unity of faith and equipped each other for works of service.

### Freedom

We received a fresh release to just be ourselves, in both our strengths and in our weaknesses. We meditated heavily on the grace of God. We don't have to compare ourselves to others; we don't have to hide who we are. We came up short. Mistakes, sins, and weaknesses are not causes for shame; they are opportunities for repentance and growth. One solution God gives is ministry partners; we partner that's how it does from the stage. If she can't worship from the kids, then she can't lead worship from the stage. That took months.

### Friends

One of the values of committing to this ministry year after year is that we have developed deep friendships with people over time. We share with each other what God is teaching us, doing in us, and doing to us. And in that way we develop strong, enduring, genuine friendships. "How are you doing?" isn't asked shallowly. It really means, "Remember that area in which God was stretching you? Where have you had victory? How can I continue to help you?" Those kinds of friendships are critical to perseverance and encouragement.

We visited Matt and Evan Why, former MVFF members and Lighthouse pastors. They are doing really well, raising their twin boys and launching a small group ministry within their church based on what they learned in Lighthouse! They exemplify our mission of Love, Liberate, Lead, and Launch! Even now they're seeking to do that for others.

*"Ministry is like finger paint art. It goes up on the fridge, not because it's 'good,' but because you did it. And God loves you."* —Pastor

*We saw millionaires and interns work side-by-side, and taught to serve us. We felt so loved and refreshed by such simple servanthood.*

### Fresh Vision

We learned that people grow in unity when they share things in common, like common experiences, common studies, and common stories. This gave us new, fun ideas for MVFF, like retreats, group mission trips, and a sermon series based on a book we all read together. We also gleaned some creative ideas from pastors who excel at evangelism. We hope to incorporate them into our church through these of you who are gifted in that area.

Kelly prayed for healing for two pastors — healing of the soul and freedom from fear, rejection, and spiritual oppression. Both pastors were healed and shared powerful testimonies about their healing! Nick met with the interns of the church where we are at and shared with them about perseverance, ministry inspirations, and spiritual truths.

*"You know when your kids start fake smiling in photos instead of using their natural smiles? You just want to ask them, 'Why are you doing that?' Where did that fake smile go?" I feel like God is asking me that — when it comes to ministry, He wants me to do it with a real smile. Not out of striving to please Him, or because I "have to." He's showing me no matter what."* —Pastor

**Share this:**

- [Facebook](#)
- [Twitter](#)
- [LinkedIn](#)
- [Pinterest](#)
- [More](#)

**Like this:**

Like Loading...

### My Purpose-Driven Life

16 Saturday Mar 2013

Posted by [kashbaka in discipling, His mysterious ways, leadership, ministry, Notes for Pastor's Wife, spiritual truths](#)

• [Leave a Comment](#)

**Tags**

[Pastoring](#)

I've always gotten a sense of who the REAL "you" is? The "you" God created, designed, intended to exist before "you" got distorted and mucked up in the fall when sin entered the world. I believe that the more you get to know Jesus, the better you understand who He made you to be. Increasing that I am an inflection of Him along the purpose He has for me (especially when so much of my life is spent battling thoughts of shame and guilt). We recently received a note that was written with the tongue of a disciple that can sustain the weary with just a word. It contains both genuine affection and appreciation from a sister in Christ, as well as whispers from God for us (if you listen closely, you can hear His voice in the note, too).

On a side note, this letter reminds me that when you're just being you, the you God intended and purposed for you to be, you can change people's lives. I \*never\* would have thought that we'd had this kind of impact on the woman who wrote this note. We didn't do anything special — we were just being us.

Nick and Kelly,

*I want to give you a small gift. I doubt it is anything you would ever have use for, but the meaning of it is something I very much treasure.*

*This bracelet is a few years old. I made it during college as part of a fundraiser to open a home for girls who had been victims of trafficking. The idea behind the bracelet is that we wanted to take something that would otherwise be discarded and to assign value to it again — in the same way that these victims could have hope and feel valued.*

*This was the first time I really understood that I wanted to be an advocate for people.*

*I have kept this bracelet as a remembrance of that time. It is one of the few things that I brought with me in my move, and I give it to you as an affirmation of the great strength and safety I feel from you. I have gotten to witness your joy of care for me many times, and I have seen you in action — and this message of "advocate" always comes to mind. You lend strength and safety all the time. You rise up on people's behalf.*

*It is inspiring, and I look at you and say—I want to learn to do that for people, too. Thank you. I do so appreciate you.*

**Share this:**

- [Facebook](#)
- [Twitter](#)
- [LinkedIn](#)
- [Pinterest](#)
- [More](#)

**Like this:**

Like Loading...

### Means the World to Me

12 Tuesday Mar 2013

Posted by [kashbaka in discipling, leadership, letters, ministry, my spiritual journey, Notes for Pastor's Wife](#)

• [Leave a Comment](#)

**Tags**

[Pastoring, Pastoring, Pioneer, Professional](#)

You know what totally lifts my spirit and gives me the strength to keep on keeping on? Notes of appreciation, tokens of gratitude, and the like. Especially thoughtfully written, specific, and meaningful appreciation and gifts. And I also really like knowing — and being reminded — of what exactly makes a difference in people's lives. For me, the question "How can I best help people?" often is informed by how I have best helped people. So I keep notes and cards, like the one I received below from another pastor, to encourage me and remind me of what I'm supposed to be doing:

Doreen Kelly,

*I got some very much for all that you are and all that you've done for me and FMA. Words can not express how much our little Field Ministry Academy family has meant to me and my husband. Most of all, I want to thank you for being YOU as you shared in devotion and as you walked to me as a friend. Actually has felt like your vulnerability and for being brave enough to go deep so I could feel comfortable and safe enough to go deep as well — past the facade of casual conversations and reaching deeper into the freedom and openness of true friendship. Thank you for that precious gift — the gift of you!*

**Share this:**

- [Facebook](#)
- [Twitter](#)
- [LinkedIn](#)
- [Pinterest](#)
- [More](#)

**Like this:**

Like Loading...

### Apparently It Was Prophetic...

10 Sunday Mar 2013

Posted by [kashbaka in His mysterious ways, leadership, ministry, Notes for Pastor's Wife, spiritual truths, workplace ministry](#)

• [Leave a Comment](#)

**Tags**

[Pastoring, Pioneer](#)

I went to Harvard Law School to do one of two things — be a prosecutor who puts lots of bad guys away or defend and protect children. I graduated with a realization that I didn't really care for the law, per se, and that prosecuting would consume all my time and energy (not what I wanted). Also graduated with a ton of debt, which meant that protecting children wasn't going to happen — those jobs are very hard to get between, and they mean starting out at little to no salary. An independently wealthy friend of mine took one of those jobs after we graduated — I interviewed at Harvard for one year before the organization had to let her go for lack of funding.

Any case, here's what she wrote:

Kelly, You mentioned that it is important to go back to the people who used their spiritual gifts in your life to confirm what they said. Thought I would paste a sentence from my husband's email to me after a night:

"P.S. After Lighthouse and meaningful conversations last night, my job seems deeply bleak."

*Thought you would enjoy. It's exactly what you said he would feel at his job.*

I laughed and laughed — not because I delight in his misery, but because I am so incredibly excited about where God is taking him!

**Share this:**

- [Facebook](#)
- [Twitter](#)
- [LinkedIn](#)
- [Pinterest](#)
- [More](#)

**Like this:**

Like Loading...

### Oooh Button Challenges Me

06 Friday Mar 2013

Posted by [kashbaka in His mysterious ways, kid stories, ministry, my spiritual journey, raising kids, spiritual truths](#)

• [2 Comments](#)

**Tags**

[Pastoring, Pioneer](#)

I just love the Bible in Hebrews 10 that says we are to appear *one another on to love and good deeds*. "But" — what a fantastic word! Having used to train horses and compete in rodeos, I love the picture this simple word conveys. Get real close to other believers, and then dig into them as hard as you can to compel them to greater action than they ever would initiate on their own. It kinda hurts, but in a good way, you know?

Well, Button is a SPUR to me.

Here's the latest: Valentine's Day was upon us. My goal (usually) is to get out of Valentine's Day as cheaply as possible. Do what you have to do, but otherwise, there are 364 other less expensive days to show genuine love to others. So we went to the effort to make cards for her classmates, you know the obligatory I-bought-some-overpriced-character-laden-cardstock-at-the-store cards. And that was it for me. I was good.

Button comes home the next day from school. She's decided she wants to buy candygrams at school to have delivered to the 2 kids (both boys) in her class who are the most socially outcast. She's not really friends with them — doesn't sit with them outside of play with them — but she wants them to feel special and cared about, too. Normally they're the ones left out, so on Valentine's Day she was wanted to do her part to make them feel "in." I loved it. I see, it was quite the social outcast for us (if you listen closely, you can hear His voice in the note, too).

"That's a great idea," Button. "I'll give you the money for it."

"No, Mama. No. I'm going to use my own money and buy it myself."

I was stunned. "But, Button, that's a huge chunk out of the money you've saved and it's nothing for her. Let me just give you the money. It doesn't change that you thought to do this and they will get it from a law clerk."

She shook her head adamantly. "No, Mom. Sorry, but I want to do this for them. And I want to use my own money."

She brought the candygrams, the boys were surprised, they didn't say thank you, but she could tell they liked it. Such a simple thing. But with huge ramifications. I have no idea how it affected those boys. But I left me speechless. And it made me re-think how I use my finances, how I can love those who are unloved, how I can anticipate others' down times and make an effort to lift them up, and how I can surprise people by cheerfully pouring out God's love on them at opportune times. I mean, what is money for? Isn't it just another tool to love God and love others?

**Share this:**

- [Facebook](#)
- [Twitter](#)
- [LinkedIn](#)
- [Pinterest](#)
- [More](#)

**Like this:**

Like Loading...

### Being a Career Woman Isn't What It's Cracked Up To Be: Reflections from a Harvard Law Attorney

06 Wednesday Mar 2013

Posted by [kashbaka in balancing it all, ministry, my other day job, my spiritual journey, personal, women's topics, workplace ministry](#)

• [2 Comments](#)

**Tags**

[Pastoring, Pastoring, Pioneer, Professional](#)

I went to Harvard Law School to do one of two things — be a prosecutor who puts lots of bad guys away or defend and protect children. I graduated with a realization that I didn't really care for the law, per se, and that prosecuting would consume all my time and energy (not what I wanted). Also graduated with a ton of debt, which meant that protecting children wasn't going to happen — those jobs are very hard to get between, and they mean starting out at little to no salary. An independently wealthy friend of mine took one of those jobs after we graduated — I interviewed at Harvard for one year before the organization had to let her go for lack of funding.

Any case, here's what she wrote:

Kelly, You mentioned that it is important to go back to the people who used their spiritual gifts in your life to confirm what they said. Thought I would paste a sentence from my husband's email to me after a night:

"P.S. After Lighthouse and meaningful conversations last night, my job seems deeply bleak."

*Thought you would enjoy. It's exactly what you said he would feel at his job.*

I laughed and laughed — not because I delight in his misery, but because I am so incredibly excited about where God is taking him!

**Share this:**

- [Facebook](#)
- [Twitter](#)
- [LinkedIn](#)
- [Pinterest](#)
- [More](#)

**Like this:**

Like Loading...

### Apparently It Was Prophetic...

10 Sunday Mar 2013

Posted by [kashbaka in His mysterious ways, leadership, ministry, Notes for Pastor's Wife, spiritual truths, workplace ministry](#)

• [Leave a Comment](#)

**Tags**

[Pastoring, Pioneer](#)

I went to Harvard Law School to do one of two things — be a prosecutor who puts lots of bad guys away or defend and protect children. I graduated with a realization that I didn't really care for the law, per se, and that prosecuting would consume all my time and energy (not what I wanted). Also graduated with a ton of debt, which meant that protecting children wasn't going to happen — those jobs are very hard to get between, and they mean starting out at little to no salary. An independently wealthy friend of mine took one of those jobs after we graduated — I interviewed at Harvard for one year before the organization had to let her go for lack of funding.

Any case, here's what she wrote:

Kelly, You mentioned that it is important to go back to the people who used their spiritual gifts in your life to confirm what they said. Thought I would paste a sentence from my husband's email to me after a night:

"P.S. After Lighthouse and meaningful conversations last night, my job seems deeply bleak."

*Thought you would enjoy. It's exactly what you said he would feel at his job.*

I laughed and laughed — not because I delight in his misery, but because I am so incredibly excited about where God is taking him!

DONATE



<http://twitter.com/intent/tweet?via=wordpressdotcom&t>

Latest

Show All

Hrm.

The Wayback Machine has not archived that URL.

This page is available on the web!

Help make the Wayback Machine more complete!

Save this url in the Wayback Machine

Click here to search for all archived pages under  
<http://twitter.com/intent/>.



The Wayback Machine is an initiative of the Internet Archive, a 501(c)(3) non-profit building a digital library of Internet sites and other cultural artifacts in digital form. Other projects include Open Library & archive-it.org.

Your use of the Wayback Machine is subject to the Internet Archive's Terms of Use



- [About](#)
- [Resumes](#)
- [Speaking](#)

## Kelly Tshibaka

### ~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional



## Monthly Archives: January 2011

### [More \(Prophetic?\) Words from Button about My "Pregnancy"](#)

31 Monday Jan 2011

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [His mysterious ways](#), [kid stories](#), [miscarriage](#), [women's topics](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

button felt my tummy again: "Ooh! See, Mama?! Your tummy is getting harder! That means you're gonna have a baby soon!" (Note: I am NOT pregnant).

She's convinced it's a girl. I asked her if she liked the names we are thinking about if we have another girl: Jadya, Selah, or Samara. She didn't like any of them. She had her own idea of what the baby's name should be: Shaya. "Shaya?" I asked, wondering where she got that from. She was resolute. "Shaya. It sounds like Sarah."

I shared the story with Nikl and he looked up the name. In Hebrew, Shaya means "gift"—the same as Shilo! Amazing. Out of thin air (seem'g'y) she pulls a name that means the same as the name for the daughter we lost.

Later, Button informed us that I heard her wrong and the name was Shanna, not Shaya. Shanna means "God is gracious." Indeed, He is.

Things that make you go hmm. Like Mary, I will measure these things in my heart. I believe the Lord speaks through kids; it's quite possible He's going to give us another daughter and He's given us her name, too.

#### Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

#### Like this:

Like Loading...

### [The Taskmaster](#)

29 Saturday Jan 2011

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [Bible study](#), [ministry](#), [my spiritual journey](#), [spiritual truths](#), [workplace ministry](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

*So the same day Pharaoh commanded the taskmasters over the people and their foremen, saying, "You are no longer to give the people straw to make brick as previously; let them go and gather straw for themselves. But the quota of bricks which they were making previously, you shall impose on them; you are not to reduce any of it. Because they are lazy, therefore they cry out, 'Let us go and sacrifice to our God.' Let the labor be heavier on the men, and let them work at it so that they will pay no attention to false words." Exodus 5:6-9*

Pharaoh is one of the earliest and most formidable enemies of the people of God. Whenever you see in the Bible an enemy of God's people or His work, it gives you insight into the strategies of the enemy against us today. We can study these enemies so we may be wise to the schemes of Satan. (2 Cor. 2:11)

In these verses from Exodus, we see that in response to Moses' request that Pharaoh let the Israelites go into the wilderness for 3 days to worship God, Pharaoh sets taskmasters over the people to oppress them greatly. And as a result, the people would believe His words to and call on them are false.

In the same way, we can anticipate that one of the enemy's strategies against us today is to burden us heavily with things to do—the tyranny of the urgent, the demands of work, the pressures of life, or the expectation to produce more with less. And when we're under the affliction and oppression of the Taskmaster, we too struggle to believe the call of God on us.

I struggle with the Taskmaster. After reading this verse, and even sharing it with others, I missed an opportunity to apply it. (I'm not beating myself up! I'm simply conveying this as an example of how the Taskmaster works in our own lives). My co-worker's daughter was hit by a car on her way to school. She lived, but was hospitalized in critical condition. This was the same week that I discovered these verses in Exodus. And though I had read it, though I had shared it, I didn't think to visit them or even call them until Niki pointed it out to me: "Don't you think you should go visit her?"

I missed it! There had been "so much to do" that I didn't think to care for those around me. I am called to be salt and light and to love others with the love of Christ. But I was so burdened with the tasks of the week that I struggled to believe this call of God on me: "Me, really? I'm the light in this co-worker's dark situation?"

Yes, me. When I showed up at the hospital, she hugged me and cried. "Thank you for coming." I asked her if anyone from her church had come to visit her or pray for her daughter yet. No, not a one. And I almost hadn't come either.

Beware the Taskmaster who burdens believers so heavily that we miss the call of God on us—even on a day-by-day basis.

#### Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

#### Like this:

Like Loading...

### [One Year Post Miscarriage](#)

27 Thursday Jan 2011

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [miscarriage](#), [my spiritual journey](#), [personal](#), [women's topics](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

One year ago today, I had a D&C to remove our deceased daughter from my womb. What followed was a grief deeper than I had ever experienced before. I never knew a darkness that profound before. I never knew a depression that tempting. I never knew a sadness that compelling. I remember asking God, "How will I ever get better? How will I ever be joyful again? How will I ever laugh again?"

Here I am a year later and in a remarkably different place. I have joy. I am at peace. I laugh a lot. I remember my pregnancy fondly. I am hopeful for the eternity I get to spend with our daughter. One year ago, I never would have believed that I would be in such an emotionally healthy place today. I am amazed that my sadness is outweighed by joy, that my despair has been replaced with hope. My mourning has been turned into dancing, and that's nothing short of a miracle.

I'm still sad. I often have phantom memories of her. I think I "hear" a baby crying upstairs or "see" a baby crawling out of the corner of my eye only to realize that it's not real, but that's what I would have been like if she had survived. And the other day at work, I "saw" her dancing carefree in the courtyard. And I cried.

But what astounds me is that my sadness is not pervasive. It is overcome by hope in the future and joy of the Lord. I have learned there is a huge difference between happiness and joy. Happiness is a surface level feeling; joy is an overall mindset that persists regardless of life circumstances—a mindset that knows God is good and He is on the throne, in charge.

Looking back over the past year, I can identify several things that helped get me to this place:

- I acted on (took thoughts captive and submitted them to) the truth of God. Basic truths like God is good, God does good, God is faithful, God cares, God is trustworthy, and God is in control.
- I asked God hard questions and I waited for answers. These answers were words from the Lord that anchored me through the storm.
- I made space and time to grieve. I gave myself permission to feel and express my emotions (and still do). I acknowledged that I couldn't compartmentalize my emotions and I didn't try to. I made room.
- I figured out how I best grieve, step by step. I relied on people for support. I worked through stuff on my own. I cried. I scribbled. I prayed. I took a week off and got away with my Bible and a journal. I anticipated hard days—like my due date—and planned in advance how to hand them.
- We named our daughter, dedicated her to the Lord, and talked through the loss with our kids.
- I made space and time to grieve. Main take away: this is a significant loss. It is okay to feel. It is healthy to grieve. But don't jump on a runaway train of emotion dark places that are neither true nor healthy.

Thank you, Lord, for your grace, comfort, and healing. And thank you for Shilo!

#### Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

#### Like this:

Like Loading...

### [Word from the Lord for me from a friend](#)

25 Tuesday Jan 2011

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [my spiritual journey](#), [Notes for Pastor's Wife](#), [stories from a pioneer church](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

I received this note from one of the women in our church. It was very uplifting, and became especially poignant after my concussion 2 days later...especially the "open my eyes" part!

Psaln 119

17 Be good to your servant while I live,  
that I may obey your word.  
18 Open my eyes that I may see  
wonderful things in your law.  
19 I am a stranger on earth;  
do not hide your commands from me.  
20 My soul is consumed with longing  
for your laws at all times.  
21 You rebuke the arrogant, who are accused,  
those who stray from your commands.  
22 Remove from me their scorn and contempt,  
for I keep your statutes.  
23 Through rulers sit together and slander me,  
your servant will meditate on your decrees.  
24 Your statutes are my delight;  
they are my counselors.

I was thinking of you. I hope that your spirit is lifted—and that you take comfort in His words & love for you.  
You are His faithful servant and He delights in you. Thank you for shining brightly in the darkness... His light shining through you serves as a guide to many!!

Praying for you...

#### Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

#### Like this:

Like Loading...

### [Got a Concussion Praying](#)

24 Monday Jan 2011

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [kid stories](#), [my spiritual journey](#), [spiritual truths](#), [stories from a pioneer church](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

I got up Friday morning, so excited to be up before the rest of the house! I love uninterrupted prayer time! I headed down to the basement and spent awhile in prayer, mostly about our upcoming Foundation church convention and about healing and freedom for specific people in our church. I decided to finish it off singing three worship songs (praise is so pleasing to the Lord and it's one of the most powerful forms of spiritual warfare).

At the beginning of the third song, I felt light headed, which is not uncommon for me. Next thing I knew, I woke up laying on my back somewhere... I was completely delirious. Had no idea where I was, how I got there, or what was going on. I also couldn't hear or move for about a minute. Based on the fact that the third worship song to which I had been singing was wrapping up, I later deduced that I had been unconscious for three minutes, and then on and off for about an hour after that. The back of my head HURT. I had hit it hard!

I got Niki up and he called an ambulance. He also triaged our child care to get all the kids taken care of and off to school on time (thank you, Kristen!!). We spent the next 13 hours in two different rooms. Niki walked into the middle of a thorn bush and Papa recounted in dramatic fashion how every move Niki made to extricate himself from the bush was accompanied with an, "Ohi! "Ahi! "OOOCHI! "Oh, that hurts!" "Oh, no!" and "Ouchi!" Papa was laughing so hard — Niah was in such pain but his pure little heart kept his expressions so clean (I love this kid!).

They still don't know what caused the initial unconsciousness, which resulted in the fall and concussion. I have my theory. I think prayer is a contact sport! When you're praying, you are tearing down strongholds, binding evil spirits, setting captives free, and advancing the kingdom of heaven against the kingdom of darkness. Intently, you are contact fighting Satan. And like I said before, worship IS warfare. In warfare, there's combat.

So yeah, I got a patch over my eye. But you should see the other guy!

It's not something to be afraid of. I mean, think of it—what's worse: sporting a pirate patch for awhile or being diagnosed with cancer, unable to have children, or crippled by addiction? I would choose the patch. A cat scan, MRI, multiple vials of blood, neurological exam, and 2 ophthalmology exams later we learned that I suffered a mild concussion, had significant memory loss (most of which I have since recovered), and damaged a nerve in my brain (yes, I am brain damaged...) which has resulted in me having severe double vision. Both my eyes work, but they don't work together. This is supposed to correct itself over time (hours to months... I am praying for hours), and in the meantime I am sporting a pirate patch. "Am!"

One thing I did realize in all this is that it would be good to regularly pray for the protection of the blood of Jesus over me and our family and church BEFORE I begin praying. While I suspect the enemy is behind this, I also know that he can't harm me when I plead the protection of the blood of Jesus over me. Oops!

Our kids had a cute take on it all. Niah prayed, "Jesus, please don't let Mama's screw come loose any more so all her memories fall out again." And Button told her teacher, "All of Mama's memories came out and she has a concussion." Ha!

So back to my favorite contact sport! I'm just getting started!

#### Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

#### Like this:

Like Loading...

### [Niah's First Manventure with Papa](#)

24 Monday Jan 2011

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [kid stories](#), [raising kids](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

My dad is the quintessential wilderness man. He moved to Anchorage, Alaska to get away from people, and when the thriving metropolis of Anchorage got to be too populated for him at a whopping 500,000 people, he and my mom moved to middle-of-nowhere Alaska.

And Niah takes after him through and through. When he and Button venture off into the woods together, he leads her (in every other situation, she chomps at the bit to be first!). And when they go on hikes with Niki, she fatigues out in about 20 minutes, but he goes for 2 hours and could keep going!

So when Papa visited a couple weeks ago, he and Niah went on their first "manventure" together. My mom and I dropped them off far from home at the edge of the forest behind our house. Their mission was to find their way through the woods back to our home. Niah's eyes twinkled with excitement. He left out of the car, "Bye, Mom!", and didn't look back. And off they trekked to conquer the world.

They had a great time. They tracked deer, walked over a river on a log, and jumped over a stream covered in thin ice. Niah also used a sword (stick) to whack on nearly every tree he saw. At one point, Niah walked into the middle of a thorn bush and Papa recounted in dramatic fashion how every move Niah made to extricate himself from the bush was accompanied with an, "Ohi! "Ahi! "OOOCHI! "Oh, that hurts!" "Oh, no!" and "Ouchi!" Papa was laughing so hard — Niah was in such pain but his pure little heart kept his expressions so clean (I love this kid!).

When they came out of the forest, Niah exclaimed, "There's my neighbor's house! And there's MY house!"

He next morning, the first thing Niah said to me was, "Mama?! Can Papa and I go on another manventure today?!"

It is so important to me that our kids have these kind of memories with their grandparents because they are foundational to building strong, positive, cross-generational bonds in our family. I can't wait for Niah and Papa to go off together again!

#### Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

#### Like this:

Like Loading...

### [Revenge](#)

22 Saturday Jan 2011

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [deep thoughts](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

"If you're going to see revenge, you first need to dig 2 graves: one for the other person and one for your heart." (From the movie *I Am*).

#### Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

#### Like this:

Like Loading...

### [Frenemy](#)

21 Friday Jan 2011

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [discipling](#), [leadership](#), [ministry](#)

≈ [1 Comment](#)

וְרֵעָאֱוִיבֶּנִי  
1: Person who could be a friend or could be an enemy  
2: Person who once was a friend but has become an enemy (Judas)  
3: Person who masquerades as a friend but is in fact an enemy (Iago)  
4: Person who once was an enemy but might be converting to a friend (Nicodemus)

An inherent risk of ministry is the frenemy. Jesus had to endure Judas, and Jesus got to experience the joy of Nicodemus's change of heart. And we can expect to go through everything He went through. Moreover, discipling—the process of making disciples—runs the risk that those who you're discipling will turn on you, whether the way Judas did or the way Peter did in denying Jesus at His point of greatest need. Both Judas and Peter betrayed Jesus. Both hurt Him.

On the other hand, disciples can become friends. In fact, that's the intended outcome of discipling. Jesus said, "Once I called you servants, now I call you friends." And later said, "You will do what I have done and more." When He commissioned us, He co-missioned us: He brought His disciples alongside Him to partner with Him in His mission.

Frenemies don't just occur in a discipling context. They can be found anywhere.

My take on the frenemy is this: go into relationship with your eyes open, calculating the cost of knowing you could your your heart and life into someone only for them to turn against you. But believing—like Jesus did—that the cost and risk is worth it. And delighting with joy in those who become friends and co-laborers in Christ.

Loving people carries an inherent risk—they might not love you back. But Jesus takes that risk every day. And I'd like to be like Him in how I love and disciple others—even if (when!) it hurts. And in ultimately it will be ineffective. In the same way, praying for deliverance is better done gradually. That's when it's more effective. Not everything you discern in someone is ready for deliverance/liberation.

#### Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

#### Like this:

Like Loading...

### [Family Traditions the Kids Love](#)

20 Thursday Jan 2011

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [personal](#), [raising kids](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

- Family Day (once a week spent as a family doing fun things — also known as a Sabbath)
- Annual apple picking and pumpkin carving
- Baking fresh baked apple pie and apple crisp with the apples we picked
- Drinking hot chocolate by the fire place
- Roasting marshmallows over the fire pit
- Family movie time with popcorn and twizzlers
- Breakfast for dinner
- Family wii
- Craft day over Thanksgiving weekend

#### Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

#### Like this:

Like Loading...

### [Follow Blog](#)

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 904 other followers

Enter your email address

Sign me up!

Powered by [WordPress.com](#)

%d bloggers like this:

Blog at [WordPress.com](#). [The Chateau Theme](#).

[Follow](#)

Follow "Kelly Tshibaka"

Get every new post delivered to your Inbox.

Join 904 other followers

Enter your email address

Sign me up!

Powered by [WordPress.com](#)

%d bloggers like this:

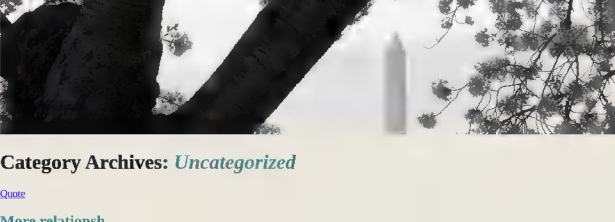


- [About](#)
- [Resources](#)
- [Speaking](#)

## Kelly Tshibaka

### ~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional

Search:



## Category Archives: Uncategorized

[Quote](#)

### [More relationsh...](#)

05 *Saturday* Oct 2013

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [Uncategorized](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

More relationships are killed by passivity than abuse

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

Like this:

Like Loading...

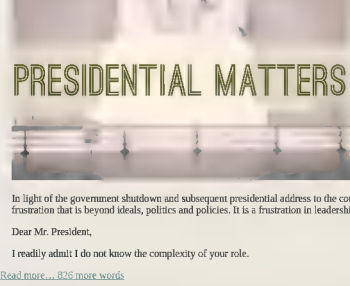
### [Another Open Letter to President Obama](#)

03 *Thursday* Oct 2013

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [Uncategorized](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

 [Reblogged from Just Isaac](#)



In light of the government shutdown and subsequent presidential address to the country, I felt compelled to write this letter to President Barack Obama. Perhaps in it you can find your own frustration that is beyond ideals, politics and policies. It is a frustration in leadership.

Dear Mr. President,

I readily admit I do not know the complexity of your role.

[Read more... 826 more words](#)

Our friend Isaac just visited us a couple weeks ago. I got a text from him earlier this week that made me feel really loved. It said something to the effect of: "I used to not care much about politics. But this shutdown is making me really angry." So he wrote this letter to the President. It's a great letter. But what I admire most of all about it is that, like with all things about Isaac, it's motivated by love – love for our country, love for our leaders, and love for the people of the DC community.

### [You Can't Make This Up](#)

25 *Wednesday* Sep 2013

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [Uncategorized](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

On the radio this morning, and they weren't joking:

"If the government shuts down next week, all of DC will shut down, too. Trash, transportation, you name it. That's because the city of DC is funded by Congress. This news update is brought to you by Big Apple Circus."

You got that right...

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

Like this:

Like Loading...

### [Button's Take on Birth Control](#)

16 *Monday* Sep 2013

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [Uncategorized](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

Denali: Daddy, I can't believe Mommy used to take birth control because she didn't want to have me yet. Why wouldn't she want me? I mean, I'm terrific! I'm amazing! I just don't get it!

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

Like this:

Like Loading...

[Quote](#)

### [Co-Dependent](#)

05 *Wednesday* Jun 2013

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [Uncategorized](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

A co-dependent is someone who right before they die, someone else's life flashes before their eyes.  
--Dr. Henry Cloud

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

Like this:

Like Loading...

### [Nine minutes at McDonalds](#)

03 *Monday* Jun 2013

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [Uncategorized](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

I just sat in a drive through for nine minutes at the McDonald's on Gallows Road in Dunn Loring, VA. There was nobody in front of me. And when I tapped on the drive-through window to ask what was taking so long, the guy in charge just smiled at me cheekily and raised his hands! When he finally handed me the sandwich I ordered, he said it took the kitchen that long. That's ridiculous!

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

Like this:

Like Loading...

### [Spock or Jesus?](#)

19 *Sunday* May 2013

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [Uncategorized](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

"The needs of the many outweigh the needs of the one"

"Greater love has no man than this, to lay down his life for his friend"

"I have been and always will be your friend"

"Now I call you friends for I have told you everything my father has told me"

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

Like this:

Like Loading...

### [Give Thanks in All Things \(10-14\)](#)

06 *Wednesday* Feb 2013

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [Uncategorized](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

*In journaling and listing the things for which I'm grateful, I've started to see, and delight in, things I hardly noticed before. According to scripture, giving thanks is the key to attaining joy and peace. I need more of both. And if I'm going to be honest, I need a lot more of it than most people know...*

10. New seasons, new beginnings
11. Giggles from my girl
12. Sleep-filled nights
13. Encouragement tag with the kids
14. Encouragement and admonishment from Ian — rest, rest, rest! Be passionate about being

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

Like this:

Like Loading...

### [Give Thanks in All Things \(4-9\)](#)

03 *Sunday* Feb 2013

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [Uncategorized](#)

≈ [1 Comment](#)

*In journaling and listing the things for which I'm grateful, I've started to see, and delight in, things I hardly noticed before. According to scripture, giving thanks is the key to attaining joy and peace. I need more of both. And if I'm going to be honest, I need a lot more of it than most people know...*

4. Deep shoulder rubs from my husband who needs them himself
5. Timely encouragement from a friend
6. Barefoot children running carefree on a muddy playground
7. A tender embrace from Niki that lifts my heart
8. Crisp campfire-infused breezes
9. Making pancakes on a Monday morning

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

Like this:

Like Loading...

### [Top 10 Responses to Those Who Criticize My Parenting](#)

26 *Saturday* Jan 2013

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [Uncategorized](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

You step one minute into Mommy world and you can't help but get criticized. From the lactation consultant at birth to the mommy cliques on the playground, you can't escape it.

I've gotten my fair share of criticism, from loved ones to perfect strangers. It's pretty remarkable. Like: "You're harsh," "Your decisions are selfish—you do what's best for you, not your kids," "You're depriving your kids of key opportunities at a critical time in their development," "You run a dictatorship...your kids need more freedom!" "You aren't teaching them enough...or the right things," "Your kids are misbehaved/out of control/difficult in some way..." "You shouldn't discipline them the way you do," "If you loved your kids, you'd \_\_\_\_ (something different than what I'm doing)," "You shouldn't have a job; you should be at home with your kids," and, with respect to me still working— "Why did you get pregnant if you weren't ready to be a mom?"

I've got several responses to people who offer such criticism... can I say at the outset that it's wise to at least listen to it? I've received several helpful tips and even changed some of my parenting skills simply by asking follow-up questions when someone levels criticism. If there's something constructive there, then why not use it? It just makes me a better parent.

But when there's nothing constructive there...well, here are some responses to these endless arrows of criticism. Some of them I've used, and some of them I've just thought...

10. I am rubber you are glue, what bounces off me sticks to you... In other words, WHATEVER.
9. Yeah? You should see them when they're on sugar highs...
8. You might not have realized this, but that pride you're wearing doesn't look good on you...
7. You might not like it, but I've got a 20 year plan here. Let's revisit this in 20 years and see how it worked out.
6. I love them too much not to discipline them. (And once they stop doing stupid things, I'll stop disciplining them!)
5. It's a good thing that it's okay to make mistakes in our family.
4. I also wish some of our life situations were different. It's not ideal, but this is the best of the possible alternatives for right now.
3. One of my top objectives is that I \*like\* my kids, not just love them. And I \*really\* like them. Which is more than what you—or anyone, really—can say about \*your\* kids...
2. Oh finally! I've been waiting for someone to catch me! They never should've let me leave the hospital with these things!
1. Wow...I'd totally take that to heart...if I wasn't RIGHT. Need proof? Exhibit A: my awesome kids.

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

Like this:

Like Loading...

[← Older posts](#)

Search:

### Follow Blog

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 904 other followers

### Recent Posts

- [Being Blind and Carrying Car Keys](#)
- [More relationsh...](#)
- [Another Open Letter to President Obama](#)
- [You Can't Make This Up](#)
- [Button's Take on Birth Control](#)

### Archives

- [October 2013](#)
- [September 2013](#)
- [August 2013](#)
- [June 2013](#)
- [May 2013](#)
- [April 2013](#)
- [March 2013](#)
- [February 2013](#)
- [January 2013](#)
- [December 2012](#)
- [November 2012](#)
- [October 2012](#)
- [September 2012](#)
- [August 2012](#)
- [July 2012](#)
- [June 2012](#)
- [May 2012](#)
- [April 2012](#)
- [March 2012](#)
- [January 2012](#)
- [December 2011](#)
- [November 2011](#)
- [October 2011](#)
- [September 2011](#)
- [August 2011](#)
- [July 2011](#)
- [April 2011](#)
- [March 2011](#)
- [February 2011](#)
- [January 2011](#)
- [December 2010](#)
- [November 2010](#)
- [October 2010](#)
- [September 2010](#)
- [August 2010](#)
- [July 2010](#)
- [June 2010](#)
- [May 2010](#)
- [April 2010](#)
- [March 2010](#)
- [February 2010](#)
- [January 2010](#)
- [December 2009](#)
- [November 2009](#)
- [October 2009](#)
- [September 2009](#)
- [August 2009](#)
- [July 2009](#)
- [June 2009](#)
- [May 2009](#)
- [March 2009](#)
- [February 2009](#)
- [January 2009](#)
- [December 2008](#)
- [November 2008](#)
- [October 2008](#)
- [September 2008](#)
- [August 2008](#)
- [July 2008](#)
- [June 2008](#)
- [May 2008](#)
- [April 2008](#)
- [March 2008](#)
- [February 2008](#)
- [January 2008](#)
- [December 2007](#)
- [November 2007](#)
- [October 2007](#)
- [September 2007](#)
- [August 2007](#)
- [July 2007](#)
- [June 2007](#)
- [May 2007](#)
- [April 2007](#)
- [March 2007](#)
- [February 2007](#)
- [January 2007](#)

### Categories

[Blog at WordPress.com - The Chateau Theme.](#)

[Follow](#)

Follow "Kelly Tshibaka"

Get every new post delivered to your Inbox.

Join 904 other followers

Powered by [WordPress.com](#)

%d bloggers like this:

- [About](#)
- [Resources](#)
- [Speaking](#)

## Kelly Tshibaka

### ~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional

Search:



#### About



Kelly is a daughter of God and wife to her best friend, Niki. She also is a *parent, pioneer, pastor, and professional*. She is the *mother* of five children (one of whom is in Heaven), and has pioneering in her blood. As a descendant of American Revolution soldiers and Oregon Trail settlers, it's no wonder that Kelly loves adventures and starting new things!

One of her most rewarding pioneering adventures has been starting a Foursquare church ([www.nguunivernonfoursquare.org](http://www.nguunivernonfoursquare.org)) in Alexandria, VA, just outside Washington, DC. Niki and Kelly *pioneered* the church in 2006, after having graduated together from Harvard Law School and moving to DC to be lawyers (hopefully rich and powerful, to be honest...). But God replaced the *dream* in their heart — Instead of being rulers of all, they wanted to be servants of all. And so they opened their hearts (and the door of their home) to love the people of DC.

Kelly continues to *pastor* the church along with Niki. She is a licensed minister with the International Church of the Foursquare Gospel and she also continues to work as a lawyer for the U.S. government (the *professional* part).

Kelly is passionate about *making disciples*, including raising up leaders and helping others in their discipling efforts. To that end, she *writes* articles, blogs, and often speaks at conferences and events to equip and release people into ministry leadership. Kelly and Niki also created the web video *This Is Discipling* (<http://vimeo.com/clearimage/discipling>).

On a more personal note, Kelly loves having fun, "singing" (er...performing), being on stage, photography, writing, and collecting Christmas ornaments.

#### Share this:

- [Facebook](#)
- [Twitter](#)
- [LinkedIn](#)
- [More](#)

#### Like this:

Like Loading...

#### Leave a Reply

Email

Name

Website

Notify me of follow-up comments via email.

Notify me of new posts via email.

Post Comment

Search:

#### Follow Blog

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 904 other followers

#### Recent Posts

- [Being Blind and Carrying Car Keys](#)
- [More relational...](#)
- [Another Open Letter to President Obama](#)
- [You Can't Make This Up](#)
- [Barton's Take on Birth Control](#)

#### Archives

- [October 2013](#)
- [September 2013](#)
- [August 2013](#)
- [June 2013](#)
- [May 2013](#)
- [April 2013](#)
- [March 2013](#)
- [February 2013](#)
- [January 2013](#)
- [December 2012](#)
- [November 2012](#)
- [October 2012](#)
- [September 2012](#)
- [August 2012](#)
- [July 2012](#)
- [June 2012](#)
- [May 2012](#)
- [April 2012](#)
- [March 2012](#)
- [January 2012](#)
- [December 2011](#)
- [November 2011](#)
- [October 2011](#)
- [September 2011](#)
- [August 2011](#)
- [July 2011](#)
- [April 2011](#)
- [March 2011](#)
- [February 2011](#)
- [January 2011](#)
- [December 2010](#)
- [November 2010](#)
- [October 2010](#)
- [September 2010](#)
- [August 2010](#)
- [July 2010](#)
- [June 2010](#)
- [May 2010](#)
- [April 2010](#)
- [March 2010](#)
- [February 2010](#)
- [January 2010](#)
- [December 2009](#)
- [November 2009](#)
- [October 2009](#)
- [September 2009](#)
- [August 2009](#)
- [July 2009](#)
- [June 2009](#)
- [May 2009](#)
- [March 2009](#)
- [February 2009](#)
- [January 2009](#)
- [December 2008](#)
- [November 2008](#)
- [October 2008](#)
- [September 2008](#)
- [August 2008](#)
- [July 2008](#)
- [June 2008](#)
- [May 2008](#)
- [April 2008](#)
- [March 2008](#)
- [February 2008](#)
- [January 2008](#)
- [December 2007](#)
- [November 2007](#)
- [October 2007](#)
- [September 2007](#)
- [August 2007](#)
- [July 2007](#)
- [June 2007](#)
- [May 2007](#)
- [April 2007](#)
- [March 2007](#)
- [February 2007](#)
- [January 2007](#)

#### Categories

Select Category

[Blog at WordPress.com](#). [The Chateau Theme](#).

[Follow](#)

#### Follow “Kelly Tshibaka”

Get every new post delivered to your Inbox.

Join 904 other followers

Enter your email address

Powered by [WordPress.com](#)

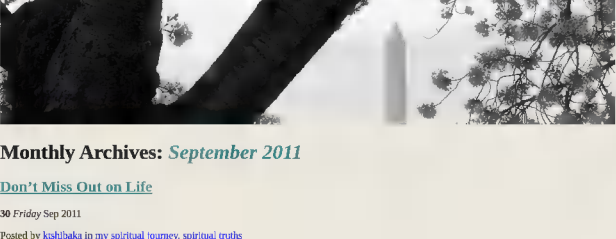
%d bloggers like this:

- [About](#)
- [Resources](#)
- [Speaking](#)

## Kelly Tshibaka

### ~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional

Search:



## Monthly Archives: *September 2011*

### [Don't Miss Out on Life](#)

30 Friday Sep 2011

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [my spiritual journey](#), [spiritual truths](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

I received this forward and it's totally where I'm at right now. I don't even normally read forwards! But I opened this one for "some" reason and it absolutely convicted me. This is exactly where I'm at right now. I want to walk through each day seeing the magic in it – seeing the gifts of God all around me. Not racing my kids by huge displays of the miraculous with a grt of frustration and busyness.

At a Metro Station in Washington, DC, on a cold January morning in 2007, this man with a violin played six Bach pieces for about 45 minutes. During that time, approximately 2,000 people went through the station, most of them on their way to work. After about 3 minutes, a middle-aged man noticed that there was a musician playing. He slowed his pace and stopped for a few seconds, and then he hurried on to meet his schedule. About 4 minutes later: The violinist received his first dollar: A woman threw money in the hat and, without stopping, continued to walk.

At 5 minutes: A young man leaned against the wall to listen to him, then looked at his watch and started to walk again. At 10 minutes: A 3-year old boy stopped, but his mother tugged him along hurriedly. The kid stopped to look at the violinist again, but the mother pushed hard and the child continued to walk, turning his head the whole time. This action was repeated by several other children, but every parent – without exception – forced their children to move on quickly.

At 45 minutes: The musician played continuously. Only 6 people stopped and listened for a short while. About 20 gave money, but continued to walk at their normal pace. The man collected a total of \$32.

After 1 hour: He finished playing and silence took over. No one noticed and no one applauded. There was no recognition at all. No one knew this, but the violinist was Joshua Bell, one of the greatest musicians in the world. He played one of the most intricate pieces ever written, with a violin worth \$3.5 million dollars. Two days before, Joshua Bell sold out a theater in Boston where the seats averaged \$100 each to listen to him play the same music.

This is a true story. Joshua Bell, playing incognito in the D.C. Metro Station, was part of a social experiment by the Washington Post about perception, taste and priorities.

This experiment raised several questions:

\*In a common-place environment, at an inappropriate hour, do we perceive beauty?

\*If so, do we stop to appreciate it?

\*Do we recognize talent in an unexpected context?

One possible conclusion reached from this experiment could be this:

If we do not have a moment to stop and listen to one of the best musicians in the world, playing some of the finest music ever written, with one of the most beautiful instruments ever made . . . . . How many other things are we missing as we rush through life?

Share this:

- 
- 
- 

• [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### [Where Do Babies Come From?](#)

29 Thursday Sep 2011

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [raising kids](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

I got the question. Me. From Cutie Pie. Just me. Niki wasn't even in town.

"Where do babies come from?"

*They come from love.*

"No, but *how* are babies made?"

*[gulp] Well, the Bible says that life comes from love. Jesus loved us, so He died for us to give us eternal what?*

"Life."

*That's right. Over and over again, the Bible shows us that life comes from love. And that's true with babies, too. They come from love. So when daddy and mommy loved each other, that's what made you.*

Oh. Well, what about mommies that aren't married? Where did their babies come from?

*[you have GOT to be kidding me]*

*The same place, Cutie Pie. Sometimes a man and woman fall in love and choose to act married before they are married. And when that happens, a baby can come from that love because life comes from love. That's one reason why it's so important to save your love for the one woman who will be your wife.*

Ooh, I see.

*[phew]*

Share this:

- 
- 
- 

• [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### [Cards from Button](#)

28 Wednesday Sep 2011

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [raising kids](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

*To My Mom  
See how much I love you inside the card  
Mom will Be Brave  
My Mom Will Be Tough  
When I am  
In danger  
She Knows Enough.  
The End  
To my froggy  
Mom!*

*To my Mom  
Happy Late Birthday!  
Mom!  
You are Brave and Peaceful  
an Loving!!  
Keep it Like that!!*

*to The Best mom Ever!  
Strong and powerful brave and Standing for What's right.  
A mom is a mom and that is t.g.h.t.  
To my precious mother!  
From Button*

Share this:

- 
- 
- 

• [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### [Thankfulness](#)

27 Tuesday Sep 2011

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [my spiritual journey](#), [spiritual truths](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

*Thankfulness is the joyful and humble response of a heart that has been transformed by grace...Thankfulness is a good test of your faith. Its absence demonstrates that your faith is more lip service than experiential knowledge... ~Joe Thom*

*Ann Voskamp makes a similar point in One Thousand Gifts: If I'm ruthlessly honest, I may have said yes to God, yes to Christianity, but really, I have lived the no.*

I have lived the no, too. I think I'm daily tempted to live the no. No, God, I don't accept Your will. No, God, I'm not going to do it your way. No, God, I refuse to move until I understand. Unless I agree. Until I know. Unless I can see. I believe, but I don't. I'm grateful, but I'm not.

I want to be filled with thankfulness. Flowing in genuine gratitude. Not lip service thankfulness, but the kind that comes from an intimate knowledge of His grace. Seeing His goodness in everything. Trusting Him at all times. Being content in all things.

Lord, forgive me for my lip service thanks. And forgive me for my ingratitude. For giving myself over to thoughts of what's missing rather than meditating on all that You've given. Transform me by Your grace. And change forever the way I see things. Change my perspective, that I would be absolutely convinced, with a child-like enchantment, of Your goodness, Your presence, Your love, and Your delight in me.

Share this:

- 
- 
- 

• [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### [Journey Into Gratitude](#)

26 Monday Sep 2011

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [my spiritual journey](#), [spiritual truths](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

I am vindicated! I am exonerated! I am given time to recover and heal! I have been given the job I want! I am able to move more into my dream!

And yet I've been so sad. I struggle to feel "up."

Part of it's grief. I hear that cancer survivors' hardest time emotionally occurs after they've beaten the cancer.

Part of it is simply ingratitude. The sin of Lucifer—wanting more. Thinking he was entitled to it. The sin of Adam and Eve — simply ungrateful for all God gave and instead focusing on what He didn't give.

That's what I'm struggling with, too. And behind it all are the age-old doubts whispered by our foe: *Is God really good? Where was a good God in all this attack you just went through?*

I don't want to feel this way. I want my life to be marked with true gratitude. In good times and in bad to always believe that He is good, that He knows best, that He loves me more than I can even imagine...more than anyone else loves me, and more than I love myself. And the way He's writing His story (and my story) is the best way the story could be written.

Ann Voskamp writes in *One Thousand Blessings*, "One life-loss can infect the whole of a life. Like a rash that wears through our days, our sight becomes peppered with black voids. Now everywhere we look, we only see all that isn't: holes, lack, deficiency." I totally relate with this right now. I have to fight to see the good, even though it's ALL AROUND ME. I'm just so tired of fighting. But I don't want to stay this way. Living by focusing on the lack isn't really living at all.

In this book, Voskamp argues that the holes from loss become the very places through which we can see past the mess of this world to the beauty of God. I'm looking forward to taking this journey with her.

Share this:

- 
- 
- 

• [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### [Interruptions, Messes, and My Cup Runneth Over](#)

25 Sunday Sep 2011

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [Bible study](#), [my spiritual journey](#), [raising kids](#), [spiritual truths](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

Mark Buchanan, in his book *The Rest of God*, makes the following observation about Jesus:

His purposes and His presence often come disguised as detours, messes, defeats. "I came to you naked," Jesus says. "I came to you thirsty." "When, Lord?" we ask, startled. When He wore the disguise of an interruption. (p. 80)

Buchanan also comments on Mr. Holland's opus:

*[Mr. Holland's] opus isn't the composition. It is all these lives –men and women, young and old–his life has touched. It is all these people his passions and convictions have helped and shaped. It's all that's being forged in the crucible of interruptions.*

I have a hard time with interruptions and messes. They are like fire hoses pummeling my young orchids of patience. But these insights from Buchanan really made me re-think my response. Lately, I've been looking for Jesus in the messes. And I've been valuing people (especially my kids) more than the time "lost" in the interruptions.

Just this morning the kids and I were reviewing Psalm 23. Slah asked me, "Mama, what does it mean "my cup runneth over?"

"Well, what it's saying is that Jesus sets out a banquet for you — a fancy dinner for you in front of all your enemies. And then he fills your cup up with your favorite drink—like Sprite or Root Beer. Whatever the best drink is, that's what He starts filling your cup with."

And then He keeps filling and keeps filling, and with a twinkle in His eye He keeps pouring even after it's filled up. So now you're having to slurp up soda off the table as fast you can, saying, " "But He just kept filling and filling because He loves you so much, He'll pour out more blessings on you than you can handle."

The kids were laughing so hard, imitating me and my silly slurpy-faced voice, "Stop, Jesus! That's too much soda!"

But He keeps filling and filling because He loves you so much, He'll pour out more blessings on you than you can handle."

Yep, that's what that verse in Psalm 23 shows me — Jesus doesn't mind the messes. In fact, He delights in them. Because the messes contain the abundant blessings.

Share this:

- 
- 
- 

• [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### [Fun with the Kids](#)

24 Saturday Sep 2011

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [balancing it all](#), [raising kids](#), [women's topics](#)

≈ [1 Comment](#)

In this season, I want to re-connect with my kids. Just have silly fun with them, you know? Talk to them about life. Help them understand fun, and themselves, and what it means to be part of our family. Our family is "fun". Super high premium value. But a large part of that has been lost over the past several months.

So the other night I took the advice of one of my mentors. We threw a big sheet over the coffee table and we all crawled under there with a flashlight and read a story together. Great FUN. The kids were so excited.

And another night I stuffed their mouths full of whip cream for finishing their math flash cards before their timers ran out.

And we had breakfast for dinner. And ice cream for dessert on a week night — way against the rules!

What ideas do you have?

Share this:

- 
- 
- 

• [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### [How Do I Internalize the Truth that God Loves Me](#)

23 Friday Sep 2011

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [letters](#), [spiritual truths](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

*Hey, Wild Woman—application question for you. While listening to Alistair Begg this AM, I concluded that while I know God loves me, I have not internalized that. If I had internalized it, my love for others would be flowing forth in far greater quantity. How do I overcome that blockage? I know that I am week/missing an element in my relationship with Him (my fault, not His) and it seemed to come together this am. Now, how do I overcome?*

Internalization comes 2 ways: 1) meditating (Josh 1:8) and 2) speaking (out of the mouth comes the overflow of the heart). So you could meditate on key scriptures about the love of God, chewing them over in your mind. (I write them on an index card and carry them in my pocket each day so I can reflect on them whenever I'm waiting, walking, etc.) As you speak these truths as a prayer or speak them out loud to memorize them, they become imbedded in your heart. The more you speak them, the more internalized they become.

Scriptures to start with are Psalm 23, Isa. 43:1-4, Romans 8:31-39, and 1 John 4:15-21.

I also recommend reading the book *Surrender to Love* by David Berner.

Share this:

- 
- 
- 

• [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

Search:

### Follow Blog

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 904 other followers

### Recent Posts

- [Being Blind and Carrying Car Keys](#)
- [More relationship...](#)
- [Another Open Letter to President Obama](#)
- [You Can't Make This Up](#)
- [Burton's Take on Birth Control](#)

### Archives

- [October 2013](#)
- [September 2013](#)
- [August 2013](#)
- [June 2013](#)
- [May 2013](#)
- [April 2013](#)
- [March 2013](#)
- [February 2013](#)
- [January 2013](#)
- [December 2012](#)
- [November 2012](#)
- [October 2012](#)
- [September 2012](#)
- [August 2012](#)
- [July 2012](#)
- [June 2012](#)
- [May 2012](#)
- [April 2012](#)
- [March 2012](#)
- [January 2012](#)
- [December 2011](#)
- [November 2011](#)
- [October 2011](#)
- [September 2011](#)
- [August 2011](#)
- [July 2011](#)
- [April 2011](#)
- [March 2011](#)
- [February 2011](#)
- [January 2011](#)
- [December 2010](#)
- [November 2010](#)
- [October 2010](#)
- [September 2010](#)
- [August 2010](#)
- [July 2010](#)
- [June 2010](#)
- [May 2010](#)
- [April 2010](#)
- [March 2010](#)
- [February 2010](#)
- [January 2010](#)
- [December 2009](#)
- [November 2009](#)
- [October 2009](#)
- [September 2009](#)
- [August 2009](#)
- [July 2009](#)
- [June 2009](#)
- [May 2009](#)
- [March 2009](#)
- [February 2009](#)
- [January 2009](#)
- [December 2008](#)
- [November 2008](#)
- [October 2008](#)
- [September 2008](#)
- [August 2008](#)
- [July 2008](#)
- [June 2008](#)
- [May 2008](#)
- [April 2008](#)
- [March 2008](#)
- [February 2008](#)
- [January 2008](#)
- [December 2007](#)
- [November 2007](#)
- [October 2007](#)
- [September 2007](#)
- [August 2007](#)
- [July 2007](#)
- [June 2007](#)
- [May 2007](#)
- [April 2007](#)
- [March 2007](#)
- [February 2007](#)
- [January 2007](#)

### Categories

Select Category

Blog at WordPress.com. [The Chateau Theme](#).

[Follow](#)

### Follow "Kelly Tshibaka"

Get every new post delivered to your Inbox.

Join 904 other followers

Powered by [WordPress.com](#)

960 bloggers like this:



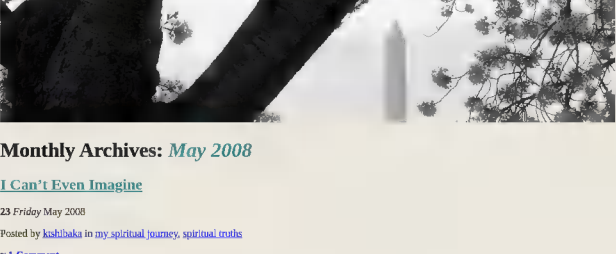


- [About](#)
- [Resources](#)
- [Spegking](#)

## Kelly Tshibaka

### ~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional

Search:



## Monthly Archives: *May 2008*

### [I Can't Even Imagine](#)

23 Friday May 2008

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [my spiritual journey](#), [spiritual truths](#)

≈ [1 Comment](#)

*Isaiah 55:8: My ways are far beyond anything you could imagine.*

I can't even imagine God's ways. That's hard to comprehend. It's hard to imagine the unimaginable. Think about the pre-telescope time when people saw only the sky of earth. They saw fantastic things – probably some things that they thought were unimaginable. Most of what they saw occurred during daylight hours, but every night they would get a glimpse of something beyond. Turns out it was always there, just beyond the sky and obscured by the sun. That's like us – we also get regular glimpses of “the things beyond” which are largely obscured by things of this world. But then someone invented the telescope. And we got to see things that were truly unimaginable before. Stars, milky ways, comets, planets, and other galaxies. It was always there; we just couldn't see it. And we couldn't even imagine it. So it is with us. The kingdom of heaven is always there – “the kingdom of heaven is at hand.” (Matt. 10:7) It's hard for us to see it, though, without the right tools (e.g., Holy Spirit). And it's beyond what we could ever imagine. God's always working; His ways are always coming to pass; and we can't even imagine it. When the most fantastic thing you've seen is a sunrise that leaves you speechless or a thunderstorm that makes you hide in terror, you can't even imagine solar systems, galaxies, or other planets. I also can't imagine all of God's ways. Lord, this is deep! It's profound to think of how unimaginable your ways are and of how very present You are – you've always been there, regardless of my imagination and what I can see. Help me to understand this more and more, and to live like I understand it – always cognizant that there are “spiritual galaxies” out there just hovering around me.

**Share this:**

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

**Like this:**

Like Loading...

### [A Surrounding Love](#)

21 Wednesday May 2008

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [my spiritual journey](#), [spiritual truths](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

*Ps 103:4: He surrounds me with love and tender mercies.*

God's love and tender mercies immerse me like the ocean depths surround a deep sea diver. I'm not in the periphery of His love. I'm consumed completely in it — lost in it, if I let myself be. I have a hard time comprehending and accepting that kind of love. I've never known a love like that — one full of unending mercy and grace. I've often felt on the verge of losing the love and grace of those whom I love most dearly – probably because I have so many times in the past. Sometimes it's like walking on egg shells. I walk on egg shells a lot with God. But He's never given me reason to, and I don't need to. How freeing it would be to let myself experience the surroundedness of His love. I gather from vs. 1 and 2 of this psalm that *letting myself be loved, letting myself experience the fullness of that relationship is volitional* — even if it's hard, I don't understand, or I don't want to, must tell myself to. I must purpose to.

Lord, surround me with love and tender mercies. May my whole heart praise you and your holy name. May I never forget the good things you do for me.

**Share this:**

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

**Like this:**

Like Loading...

### [A New Nighttime Routine?](#)

21 Wednesday May 2008

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [kid stories](#), [raising kids](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

Last night while I was putting Siah to bed, he insisted on playing his guitar. It was time for me to sing him a song, so I incorporated the guitar into our routine. I sat him on my lap, put his hand in mine, and showed him how to strum along while I sang one of his favorites, “Twinkle Twinkle Little Star.” We did it three times, but the next two times he strummed along with each word all by himself. And again, he found the key that the song was in and emphasized it in his strumming.

**Share this:**

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

**Like this:**

Like Loading...

### [Handsome Eyes](#)

21 Wednesday May 2008

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [kid stories](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

Niki was getting Burton ready in the morning, and decided to press her on what we believed was a lie she told.

“Did you get your name on the naughty board at Ranch Camp (our Sunday School program)?”

“No, Daddy. I didn't.”

“Burton. We saw your name on the board. Did you get your name on the naughty board?”

“No, Daddy. I didn't! I didn't!”

This went on several times, until Niki was convinced that either she didn't remember, or her name being on the board meant something else. But in the middle of all this, Burton cut him off and said: “Daddy, you have handsome eyes like me!”

“Burton, don't try to change the subject! We're not talking about eyes; we're talking about your name being on the naughty board!”

“Yes, I know, Daddy. But I don't want to talk about that any more. I want to talk about how you and me have the same eyes!”

**Share this:**

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

**Like this:**

Like Loading...

### [Reassuring Daddy](#)

19 Monday May 2008

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [kid stories](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

Niki was getting Burton ready for bed, when she stopped him because she needed to tell him something pressing.

“Daddy?”

“Yes, Burton?”

“I love you. Even though you make mistakes, and sometimes you make me sad or mad. But I love you.”

Oh, the love of a daughter.

**Share this:**

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

**Like this:**

Like Loading...

### [Not Nice Panda](#)

19 Monday May 2008

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [kid stories](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

Siah was trying to fall asleep. He had his panda bear (also known as “Poppy” – they're inseparable) on his face and his cribside music aquarium playing (also a necessity). When the music stopped, Siah lifted panda off his face, shook his finger at him, and said, “NOT NICE, POPPY!” Then he played the aquarium again and put panda back on his face.

**Share this:**

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

**Like this:**

Like Loading...

### [Our Little Worshipper](#)

19 Monday May 2008

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [kid stories](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

Before church on Sunday, I was holding Siah on my hip while reading over my message for that day. A new worship CD was playing in the background. Other than that, all was quiet. As the song moved into the chorus, the singer started singing something about “Jesus” and “God”. I still don't know what the song was, but I noticed a lot of “Jesus” and “God” being sang. And at that moment, an otherwise still and quiet 21-month-old lifted his right arm up and started waving it slowly in the air, like it was dancing. I looked at him and marveled. “Siah? Are you worshipping Jesus?”

“Ah-ha,” he smiled.

I just about cried. For the whole rest of the song, he danced his arm around, looking up at the sky, smiling. Except for when he would rebuke me for trying to sing or dance with him. “NO, Maman! M-tourn. [my turn]” Then I would stop, and he would resume his worship.

It was as if he was painting music for the Lord. I wish I could have seen his finished masterpiece.

**Share this:**

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

**Like this:**

Like Loading...

### [Matching Notes](#)

16 Friday May 2008

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [kid stories](#)

≈ [2 Comments](#)

Siah is uniquely musically inclined – it's really remarkable. My mom recently gave him a real kid-size guitar, and he loves to play it for hours at a time (and has severe emotional meltdowns when he has to set it down for some reason...) So the other night, my mom was singing Siah a song before bed and he was plucking at his guitar while she sang. In no time at all, he found the matching note for the chord to her song, and any time she sang that note, he played it along with her. This happened repeatedly! Mom and I were so amazed.

It might have been coincidence... but I don't believe in coincidences.

**Share this:**

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

**Like this:**

Like Loading...

### [Mother's Day](#)

16 Friday May 2008

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [personal](#), [raising kids](#), [women's topics](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

For mother's day, I compelled both kids to tell me they loved me first thing in the morning. I said, “GUESS WHAT??? Today is MOTHER'S DAY!!!” (My enthusiasm instantly evoked great enthusiasm from them, too.)

“Do you know what that means????!!?”

(At this point they're both brimming with anticipation, looking at me with eyes wide open and grinning from ear to ear.)

“It was the most to tell me YOU LOVE ME!!!”

“You have loved me since I was born!”

“I was the first to tell me YOU LOVE ME!!!”

Throughout the day I compelled “I love yous” from them, and I loved each and every one of them!

Also, my mom (and dad) and Niki's mom (and dad) were visiting that day, so we all went out to lunch together at my favorite Italian restaurant. Then later, I went with my parents to the spa and got my nails done. Burton desperately wanted to come, too, so I took her along. She wore me OUT, but it was SO worth the experience of getting manicures and pedicures together.

**Share this:**

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

**Like this:**

Like Loading...

### [Concept of God's Love](#)

07 Wednesday May 2008

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [my spiritual journey](#), [spiritual truths](#), [stories from a pioneer church](#)

≈ [1 Comment](#)

During our post-sermon discussion group, one of our church members asked me what my concept of God's love is and where it comes from. That got me and others in the group thinking about love. We identified that our concept of love is different based on relationships. For example, I love my husband differently than I love my children. This led to identifying different types of love in different relationships: love for parents, love for siblings, love for close friends, love for distant friends, love for ministry partners, love for mentors, love for colleagues, love for teachers, love for distant relatives, etc.

We also realized that our respective concepts of God's love for us virtually paralleled our concept of who He is in our life/what our relationship is. For example, one person saw God primarily as a teacher, so he saw God's love for him as like how a teacher loves a student.

I saw God primarily as a ministry partner and distant close friend — like the kind you once couldn't live without, but who moved away 20 years ago and you haven't been in the best contact. So I saw God's love for me in those ways:

1. He loves me as his “fellow laborer” who works hard with and for him.
2. He loves me, thinks fondly of me every now and then, and looks forward with great anticipation to being reunited with me, just as I look forward to being reunited with Him.

But both of these concepts are *wholly* insufficient, and in their insufficiency make room for two lies that I am now working to purge from my heart:

1. If I drop the ball as his ministry partner, He doesn't love me as much. The more I drop the ball, the less He loves me.
2. He isn't with me now, leading me, loving me, fighting for me. Instead, we are separated by time, and like a tragic love story, I'm sojourning alone through the ups and downs of life, clinging to the day when I can be reunited with Him.

What I realized in all this is that God's love for us embodies *all* concepts of love we can imagine, and then some. He is our lover, our friend, our brother, our creator, our savior, our father, our king, our defender, our teacher, our comforter, our server, our partner, the Spirit who is with us now, and the glory we will receive in eternity. Whenever we lose sight of that, we lose sight of the greatness and sufficiency of his love. After all, “God is love.” (1 Jn 4:7-8)

This also emphasizes to me how critical it is to praise God for *who he* is specifically and not just generically. For example, “Lord, I praise you for loving me. You are my lover, my friend, my brother, my companion, my king, my maker, my teacher, my helper, ...” rather than just “Praise you, Lord. Praise you!” Hmm. Something for me to keep in mind.

**Share this:**

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

**Like this:**

Like Loading...

– Older posts

Search:

### Follow Blog

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 904 other followers

### Recent Posts

- [Being Blind and Carrying Car Keys](#)
- [More relationships...](#)
- [Another Open Letter to President Obama](#)
- [You Can't Make This Up](#)
- [Burton's Take on Birth Control](#)

### Archives

- [October 2013](#)
- [September 2013](#)
- [August 2013](#)
- [June 2013](#)
- [May 2013](#)
- [April 2013](#)
- [March 2013](#)
- [February 2013](#)
- [January 2013](#)
- [December 2012](#)
- [November 2012](#)
- [October 2012](#)
- [September 2012](#)
- [August 2012](#)
- [July 2012](#)
- [June 2012](#)
- [May 2012](#)
- [April 2012](#)
- [March 2012](#)
- [January 2012](#)
- [December 2011](#)
- [November 2011](#)
- [October 2011](#)
- [September 2011](#)
- [August 2011](#)
- [July 2011](#)
- [April 2011](#)
- [March 2011](#)
- [February 2011](#)
- [January 2011](#)
- [December 2010](#)
- [November 2010](#)
- [October 2010](#)
- [September 2010](#)
- [August 2010](#)
- [July 2010](#)
- [June 2010](#)
- [May 2010](#)
- [April 2010](#)
- [March 2010](#)
- [February 2010](#)
- [January 2010](#)
- [December 2009](#)
- [November 2009](#)
- [October 2009](#)
- [September 2009](#)
- [August 2009](#)
- [July 2009](#)
- [June 2009](#)
- [May 2009](#)
- [April 2009](#)
- [March 2009](#)
- [February 2009](#)
- [January 2009](#)
- [December 2008](#)
- [November 2008](#)
- [October 2008](#)
- [September 2008](#)
- [August 2008](#)
- [July 2008](#)
- [June 2008](#)
- [May 2008](#)
- [April 2008](#)
- [March 2008](#)
- [February 2008](#)
- [January 2008](#)
- [December 2007](#)
- [November 2007](#)
- [October 2007](#)
- [September 2007](#)
- [August 2007](#)
- [July 2007](#)
- [June 2007](#)
- [May 2007](#)
- [April 2007](#)
- [March 2007](#)
- [February 2007](#)
- [January 2007](#)

### Categories

Select Category

Blog at WordPress.com. The Chateau Theme.

[Follow](#)

### Follow “Kelly Tshibaka”

Get every new post delivered to your Inbox.

Join 904 other followers

Powered by [WordPress.com](#)

96d bloggers like this:

- [About](#)
- [Resources](#)
- [Speaking](#)

## Kelly Tshibaka

### ~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional

Search:



#### Time Together

04 Wednesday Sep 2013

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [marriage](#), [ministry](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

We are getting away together. We are sans kids, staying in a swanky hotel, not too far from home. The point isn't how far away...the point is that we are alone together, not working, just celebrating and enjoying life and each other.

It's taken us awhile to figure out what we need to continue operating as the best version of ourselves. These times together are essential for both of us!



#### Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

#### Like this:

Like Loading...

#### Post navigation

[← Previous post](#) [Next post →](#)

#### Leave a Reply

Email (Add email to receive replies)

Name

Website

☐ Notify me of follow-up comments via email.

☐ Notify me of new posts via email.

Search:

#### Follow Blog

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 904 other followers

#### Recent Posts

- [Being Blind and Carrying Car Keys](#)
- [More relationsh...](#)
- [Another Open Letter to President Obama](#)
- [You Can't Make This Up](#)
- [Button's Take on Birth Control](#)

#### Archives

- [October 2013](#)
- [September 2013](#)
- [August 2013](#)
- [June 2013](#)
- [May 2013](#)
- [April 2013](#)
- [March 2013](#)
- [February 2013](#)
- [January 2013](#)
- [December 2012](#)
- [November 2012](#)
- [October 2012](#)
- [September 2012](#)
- [August 2012](#)
- [July 2012](#)
- [June 2012](#)
- [May 2012](#)
- [April 2012](#)
- [March 2012](#)
- [January 2012](#)
- [December 2011](#)
- [November 2011](#)
- [October 2011](#)
- [September 2011](#)
- [August 2011](#)
- [July 2011](#)
- [April 2011](#)
- [March 2011](#)
- [February 2011](#)
- [January 2011](#)
- [December 2010](#)
- [November 2010](#)
- [October 2010](#)
- [September 2010](#)
- [August 2010](#)
- [July 2010](#)
- [June 2010](#)
- [May 2010](#)
- [April 2010](#)
- [March 2010](#)
- [February 2010](#)
- [January 2010](#)
- [December 2009](#)
- [November 2009](#)
- [October 2009](#)
- [September 2009](#)
- [August 2009](#)
- [July 2009](#)
- [June 2009](#)
- [May 2009](#)
- [March 2009](#)
- [February 2009](#)
- [January 2009](#)
- [December 2008](#)
- [November 2008](#)
- [October 2008](#)
- [September 2008](#)
- [August 2008](#)
- [July 2008](#)
- [June 2008](#)
- [May 2008](#)
- [April 2008](#)
- [March 2008](#)
- [February 2008](#)
- [January 2008](#)
- [December 2007](#)
- [November 2007](#)
- [October 2007](#)
- [September 2007](#)
- [August 2007](#)
- [July 2007](#)
- [June 2007](#)
- [May 2007](#)
- [April 2007](#)
- [March 2007](#)
- [February 2007](#)
- [January 2007](#)

#### Categories

Select Category ▾

[Blog at WordPress.com. The Chateau Theme.](#)

[Follow](#)

#### Follow "Kelly Tshibaka"

Get every new post delivered to your Inbox.

Join 904 other followers

Enter your email address



- [About](#)
- [Resources](#)
- [Speaking](#)

## Kelly Tshibaka

### ~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional

Search:



## Monthly Archives: *February 2007*

### [Singing with Jesus](#)

26 Monday Feb 2007

Posted by [kshibaka in \*kid stories\*](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

This past Sunday, Burton and I were putzing around the house getting ready for church. We heard Niki in the bedroom, with the door closed, having quiet time and worshipping in preparation for our church service. Burton asked me what daddy was doing. After we listened to him for a second, I explained that it sounded to me like daddy was having time with Jesus and that he was singing “Jesus songs” (the term I use to refer to all Christian music).

A minute later, Burton and I were discussing some family photos on the wall. She turned to me, put her hand over my mouth, and adamantly whispered, “Shhh, mommy! Daddy’s singing with Jesus!”

I laughed... and then considered how profound the statement was. Worship ushers us into the very presence of Jesus — into His therooroom. And the Lord delights in our worship. He bears our singing, and it’s quite possible He sings along with us. At the very least, He’s our biggest fan.

#### Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

#### Like this:

Like Loading...

### [No Laughing Matter](#)

24 Saturday Feb 2007

Posted by [kshibaka in \*my spiritual journey\*](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

I attended a pastors’ training conference this past week. One of the exercises for our team was to share with the group a hypothetical testimony 3 years from now of an imaginary single mom who joins our fellowship sometime this year. I was designated to be the one from our team to give the testimony.

“This will be fun,” I thought. I planned on acting out the testimony with as much attitude as some of the girls I used to work with when I ran an inner-city theater program.

But then I felt a nudge from the Lord. “What’s the purpose in hamming it up?” “To give these pastors a good laugh,” I thought. The Lord proceeded to bring to mind friends who are single moms, how much He loves them, how much they suffer, and how much He grieves for them. With gentle conviction, He followed up: “This is no laughing matter.” “You’re right, Lord.”

Instead of dramatizing the testimony, I delivered it as though it was the testimony of one of those friends the Lord brought to mind. The other pastors said they were very moved by what I said. After I explained that it was the testimony I hope my friend — an not an imaginary person — has in 3 years, the pastors gathered together to pray for her. I had goosebumps. And as we were praying, I felt the Lord again: “Aren’t you glad you didn’t exchange this for a cheap laugh?”

Oh, yes, Lord. And may the hypothetical testimony I gave be a prophetic word for what my friend’s testimony will be in 3 years.

#### Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

#### Like this:

Like Loading...

### [Lent Reflections](#)

22 Thursday Feb 2007

Posted by [kshibaka in \*Uncategorized\*](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

Lent began yesterday — a season that occurs during the 40 days before Easter. During these days, we respond to God’s call to return to Him with all our heart. We ask, “Lord, what needs to be changed in me?”, and we listen for His response.

During this season, we engage in spiritual disciplines to silence the distractions that keep us from hearing God. These disciplines can include:

**FASTING:** By omitting meals, certain foods, or habitual behaviors, we deny our desires and become more alert in every area of our lives, particularly spiritually. Some examples of things from which I have fasted: breakfast, desserts, diet coke, and complaining. When you are tempted to break your fast, that is the time to stop and pray. As time passes, it becomes easier and easier to keep your fast because you have become increasingly focused on God and decreasingly focused on things of this world.

**PRAYER:** This is the time to start new patterns of prayer. Build off of wherever you’re at. If you don’t pray regularly, start by setting aside 5 minutes in the morning to turn your heart and mind towards the Lord. If you pray often, try adding prayer time at different times in the day. Or focus your prayers by creating a list of people and issues to pray for, and by praying the Scriptures. Be realistic — if you set lofty standards, you likely won’t meet them. It takes time, and a gradual building, to become a prayer warrior.

#### Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

#### Like this:

Like Loading...

### [Still Learning](#)

21 Wednesday Feb 2007

Posted by [kshibaka in \*my spiritual journey\*](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

I’m still learning to pick up on those promptings of the Spirit; those still, small nudges from God that lead us in the direction He wants us to go. You’d think that by this point, I would get it. But I still miss it from time to time.

Like this past weekend. Our church was fellowshiping over dinner, and some friends who had visited that day shared that they really missed taking communion. I responded that we usually take communion about once a month, and maybe we’d do it when they visited next. Whoa — I missed it! But the Spirit gave me another opportunity — as I was contemplating how to dispose of the na’an we’d had with dinner (unleavened Indian bread), He brought the communion comment to mind. We used the leftover bread to have spontaneous communion.

And another one — last week a friend told me she was frustrated because she couldn’t get her car out of the ice in her parking space. She asked me what she could do to get it out (since I have so much experience with ice and snow). Even as I told her that she probably couldn’t get it out because she didn’t know how to drive in ice, I missed the nudge to go over to help her out. It was an opportunity to act out the Good Samaritan parable by putting my agenda for the day on pause to help someone else. But I missed it.

I imagine discerning spiritual promptings is a lot like playing catch. After you miss a couple balls and take ‘em in the face, you learn to move your mitt.

#### Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

#### Like this:

Like Loading...

### [The Potty Witch](#)

13 Thursday Feb 2007

Posted by [kshibaka in \*deep thoughts\*](#)

≈ [1 Comment](#)

Burton is convinced there is a witch in our bathroom. When the bathroom lights are off, she refuses — out of genuine fear — to go anywhere near the bathroom. Even if I’m standing 6 feet away and in eyesight, she won’t do it. “No, Mama! There’s a WITCH in there!” she’ll scream, with great consternation.

I’m still learning to pick up on those promptings of the Spirit; those still, small nudges from God that lead us in the direction He wants us to go. You’d think that by this point, I would get it. But I still miss it from time to time.

Like this past weekend. Our church was fellowshiping over dinner, and some friends who had visited that day shared that they really missed taking communion. I responded that we usually take communion about once a month, and maybe we’d do it when they visited next. Whoa — I missed it! But the Spirit gave me another opportunity — as I was contemplating how to dispose of the na’an we’d had with dinner (unleavened Indian bread), He brought the communion comment to mind. We used the leftover bread to have spontaneous communion.

And another one — last week a friend told me she was frustrated because she couldn’t get her car out of the ice in her parking space. She asked me what she could do to get it out (since I have so much experience with ice and snow). Even as I told her that she probably couldn’t get it out because she didn’t know how to drive in ice, I missed the nudge to go over to help her out. It was an opportunity to act out the Good Samaritan parable by putting my agenda for the day on pause to help someone else. But I missed it.

I imagine discerning spiritual promptings is a lot like playing catch. After you miss a couple balls and take ‘em in the face, you learn to move your mitt.

#### Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

#### Like this:

Like Loading...

### [The Lord’s Prayer . . . Button Style](#)

09 Friday Feb 2007

Posted by [kshibaka in \*kid stories\*](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

Every night Burton and I say the Lord’s Prayer together. Usually it’s more me saying it and her filling in words here and there. Well the other night she kept asking to “do it again.” After the third time, I said, “No, I’m not going to do it this time. You do it all by yourself.” And this is what she said (with emphases capitalized):

Our F’dder  
who art in h’v’n  
How’d’st be dy’ng me  
[pause as she thinks]  
evuhl evuhl evuhl  
and the GLOOOORY forever  
AMEN

I particularly liked the enthusiastic “and the glory forever.” May it be so, Lord.

#### Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

#### Like this:

Like Loading...

### [A New Year’s Resolution](#)

07 Wednesday Feb 2007

Posted by [kshibaka in \*my spiritual journey\*](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

In that sleepy, wintery week between Christmas and New Year’s, I have a practice of reviewing my journal entries from the past year. It’s a way to revisit some of the highlights and recall things I learned throughout the year (it also helps with retention and prevents me from having to “learn the hard way” twice).

This year, I reviewed my journal with this prayer in mind, “Lord, give me a direction and theme verse for 2007.”

And He did.

I found a striking pattern through my journal entries that I had failed to see until I reviewed them in totality — all year the Lord had been teaching me about attitude issues and pointing out areas in my attitude that needed tweaking. Like believing for miracles, having a tough skin and a soft heart, waiting patiently (patiently being the operative word), and not complaining. As a result, I designated 2007 as “A Year of a New, Positive Attitude.”

Shortly thereafter, the Lord gave me a verse to go along with my new focus: “Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my thoughts. Point out anything in me that offends you, and lead me along the path of everlasting life.” Ps. 139:23-24 I try to pray that verse sincerely every day and to be quiet before God to allow Him to point out anything that offends Him.

And He has. More on that later.

#### Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

#### Like this:

Like Loading...

### [And So It Begins . . .](#)

05 Monday Feb 2007

Posted by [kshibaka in \*kid stories\*](#)

≈ [1 Comment](#)

Burton has acquired her first suitor.

We were all out to eat at our family dinner this past weekend (we try to go out as a family at least once a week), and Niki got a phone call. It was the 3-year-old son of our friends. In a very mature way, the boy asked, “Mr. Niki Tshibaka, can I please marry your daughter?” Niki chuckled and responded, “Well, in about 20 years, if you have a job, I’ll think about it.” The boy promptly handed the phone over to his dad and in the process, Niki overheard him say, “I don’t like him very much.” Hysterical!

My first thought: We knew this would happen one day, but c’mon! She’s not even 3!

My second thought: Good thing Niki chuckled . . .

#### Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

#### Like this:

Like Loading...

Search:

### Follow Blog

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 904 other followers

### Recent Posts

- [Being Blind and Carrying Car Keys](#)
- [More relationship...](#)
- [Another Open Letter to President Obama](#)
- [You Can’t Make This Up](#)
- [Burton’s Take on Birth Control](#)

### Archives

- [October 2013](#)
- [September 2013](#)
- [August 2013](#)
- [June 2013](#)
- [May 2013](#)
- [April 2013](#)
- [March 2013](#)
- [February 2013](#)
- [January 2013](#)
- [December 2012](#)
- [November 2012](#)
- [October 2012](#)
- [September 2012](#)
- [August 2012](#)
- [July 2012](#)
- [June 2012](#)
- [May 2012](#)
- [April 2012](#)
- [March 2012](#)
- [February 2012](#)
- [January 2012](#)
- [December 2011](#)
- [November 2011](#)
- [October 2011](#)
- [September 2011](#)
- [August 2011](#)
- [July 2011](#)
- [April 2011](#)
- [March 2011](#)
- [February 2011](#)
- [January 2011](#)
- [December 2010](#)
- [November 2010](#)
- [October 2010](#)
- [September 2010](#)
- [August 2010](#)
- [July 2010](#)
- [June 2010](#)
- [May 2010](#)
- [April 2010](#)
- [March 2010](#)
- [February 2010](#)
- [January 2010](#)
- [December 2009](#)
- [November 2009](#)
- [October 2009](#)
- [September 2009](#)
- [August 2009](#)
- [July 2009](#)
- [June 2009](#)
- [May 2009](#)
- [March 2009](#)
- [February 2009](#)
- [January 2009](#)
- [December 2008](#)
- [November 2008](#)
- [October 2008](#)
- [September 2008](#)
- [August 2008](#)
- [July 2008](#)
- [June 2008](#)
- [May 2008](#)
- [April 2008](#)
- [March 2008](#)
- [February 2008](#)
- [January 2008](#)
- [December 2007](#)
- [November 2007](#)
- [October 2007](#)
- [September 2007](#)
- [August 2007](#)
- [July 2007](#)
- [June 2007](#)
- [May 2007](#)
- [April 2007](#)
- [March 2007](#)
- [February 2007](#)
- [January 2007](#)

### Categories

[Blog at WordPress.com](#). [The Chateau Theme](#).

[Follow](#)

Follow “Kelly Tshibaka”

Get every new post delivered to your Inbox.

Join 904 other followers

Powered by [WordPress.com](#)

%d bloggers like this:

- [About](#)
- [Resources](#)
- [Speaking](#)

## Kelly Tshibaka

### ~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional



## Monthly Archives: May 2007

### [The Best and the Worst Parts of Pastoring](#)

30 Wednesday May 2007

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [my spiritual journey, stories from a pioneer church](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

In this past week, the best and worst parts of pastoring have collided for me. Usually these things come with some distance between them, which makes it easier to handle emotionally and physically. But not this week.

#### **BEST: To see a person respond to God's call**

We have participated in a friend's spiritual journey for awhile now. God has been asking him to move into ministry, but he has been hesitant for several reasons (with which we all struggle). Yet, he has finally decided to do it. As scary as it is, he is responding to God's call. With the faith of Abraham, he is getting up and moving without knowing really where God is leading him, but knowing that following God can never be wrong.

#### **WORST: Hurting with those you love**

One of the greatest things about pastoring is how much I have come to love people. It's a kind of love I never imagined having for so many people. And it deepens day-by-day. But as I love people and walk through life with them, I begin to experience what they experience. Recently, two people whom I love have experienced tremendous heartache and brokenness. I was surprised to find that I, too, am gravely heartbroken. It's as if I myself have experienced what they have experienced. This is one of the most terrible parts of pastoring — watching those I love experience tremendous pain and grief, and experiencing that myself.

#### **WORST: Losing those you have ministered with**

On Monday, a friend from law school, who helped lead our Christian fellowship group with Nikl, was in a terrible car wreck that has left him in critical care. Yesterday we got word that he was nearing the end — he had taken a terrible turn for the worse and his vital signs were declining. I was so shaken. He was such a powerful witness for Jesus, and he ministered — just by who he was — to so many people at law school. There was nothing we could do but pray. Only God could save him. So we did — several friends from law school prayed throughout the day. We needed a miracle. The word from the doctors was so bad; I braced myself for the worst and struggled to believe the Good News: "Oh death, where is your sting?" "Death has been swallowed up in victory."

#### **BEST: Witnessing a Miracle**

Late yesterday afternoon, after Christians across the nation prayed together for our friend, he made a sudden and inexplicable turn for the better. All of a sudden, his vitals picked up, his injuries became less severe, and everyone — from the doctors to his family members — now expect him to live without any permanent damage. The officer at the scene of the wreck said it is a miracle our friend even survived the crash. It astounds the mind to know that our friend will likely pull through all of this without any lasting injury. While our friend could still take a turn for the worse, I believe God is sustaining him in direct response to our prayers. We will keep praying, and continue to commit him to the Lord's care.

#### **Share this:**

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

#### **Like this:**

Like Loading...

### [The Lamb and the Witch](#)

25 Friday May 2007

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [kid stories](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

Button was expressing concerns about that stupid witch again the other night. We were in Cattle Pie's room, where a friend has painted a beautiful mural on the wall of the new Jerusalem and a lion and lamb laying side-by-side. I told her, "Button, there is no witch. You don't have to be afraid."

She responded, "Dat's right, mama." Then she looked at the mural and said, "That lamb is going to protect me."

I realized what a deep spiritual truth she was articulating — that Jesus, the lamb of God, will protect her. "Yep, Button. That's absolutely right."

Then she continued, "He's going to carry me on his back. And then he's gonna POW that witch!!!" (as she made a punching motion).

I was astounded at the imagery — a picture came to mind of Jesus carrying the cross on His back for her sins, and for all our sins, and ultimately having victory over all things evil. "You're right, Button," I was amazed.

#### **Share this:**

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

#### **Like this:**

Like Loading...

### [How Much Am I Willing To Give Up?](#)

23 Wednesday May 2007

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [my spiritual journey](#)

≈ [1 Comment](#)

This is the issue God is working on in me right now. This is what I'm wrestling with. How much am I willing to give up?

How much money (we're feeling challenged to give twice as much as we have in past years)?

How much pride (work is very humbling right now)?

How much dreams (I've nearly lost hope for some of them)?

How much freedom?

How many comforts (painted walls, curtains, a landscaped yard, a white picket fence)?

How much of the easy life (living for God and walking in His ways are the greatest challenge I face)?

I want to sacrifice completely, but it is very difficult. And if I fully wrestled with it, I think it would be overwhelming — just to wrap my mind around all the areas in which I need/want to sacrifice. I might end up with a broken hip, like Jacob. But I doubt I could put up the fight he did.

In working through this challenge, it has been helpful to reflect on the *Jars of Clay* song, "World's Apart." I've copied the lyrics below:

"Worlds Apart"  
I am the only one to blame for this  
Somehow it all ends up the same  
Soaring on the wings of selfish pride  
I flew too high and like icarus I collide  
With a word I try so hard to leave behind  
To rid myself of all but love  
to give and die  
  
To turn away and not become  
Another nail to pierce the skin of one who loves  
more deeply than the oceans,  
more abundant than the tears  
Of a world embracing every heartache  
Can I be the one to sacrifice  
Or grip the spear and watch the blood and water flow  
  
To love you — take my world apart  
To need you — I am on my knees  
To love you — take my world apart  
To need you — broken on my knees  
  
All said and done I stand alone  
Amongst remains of a life I should not own  
It takes all I am to believe  
In the mercy that covers me

Did you really have to die for me?  
All I am for all you are  
Because what I need and what I believe are worlds apart  
  
[Additional lyrics:]  
I look beyond the empty cross  
forgetting what my life has cost  
and wipe away the crimson stains  
and dull the nails that still remain  
More and more I need you now,  
I owe you more each passing hour  
the battle between grace and pride  
I gave up not so long ago  
So steal my heart and take the pain  
and wash the feet and cleanse my pride  
take the selfish, take the weak,  
and all the things I cannot hide  
take the beauty, take my tears  
the sin-soaked heart and make it yours  
take my world all apart  
take it now, take it now  
and serve the ones that I despise  
speak the words I can't deny  
watch the world I used to love  
fall to dust and thrown away  
I look beyond the empty cross  
forgetting what my life has cost  
so wipe away the crimson stains  
and dull the nails that still remain  
so steal my heart and take the pain  
take the selfish, take the weak  
and all the things I cannot hide  
take the beauty, take my tears  
take my world apart, take my world apart  
I pray, I pray, I pray  
take my world apart

#### **Share this:**

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

#### **Like this:**

Like Loading...

### [Dear God,](#)

22 Tuesday May 2007

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [stories from a pioneer church](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

We're at that place where we need to begin finding a larger location for our church to meet. Larger space will enable us to accommodate more people, but we don't have the resources to afford much. It some ways it's a catch-22. We need larger space to accommodate more people; we need more people to afford larger space.

From the world's perspective, it seems impossible. But I know You will make it work. You are God of the Impossible — with You, all things are possible.

We have looked into all kinds of space, like retail space, a school, movie theaters, hotels, recreation centers, auditoriums, and an abandoned and dilapidated building. So far, we only have one option, but it's out of our price range. Thank you for making this easy — for closing all the doors You don't want us to walk through.

I've been there before — hoping and praying for the impossible. When I needed to leave my last job, I gave You my wish list of everything I wanted in a job. I actually wrote it down — everything from travel to a free gym on site. I looked at the list and laughed — if anyone ever advertised such a job, I would never get it. Too many people would apply and the competition would be too fierce. But, God, You created the job (the office did not exist at the time I made the list), and You gave it to me.

So, Lord, here is my wish list for space for the Fellowship, knowing full well that this is Your Fellowship — You will be done:

- Enough space to sit 100 adults comfortably every Sunday for prayer and a service
- A living room-type environment where people don't have to sit in rows
- With rugs, and windows, and couches, and color-coordinated slip covers
- A place where we can have coffee, refreshments, and lunch
- A place we can use for events and gatherings throughout the week
- Plenty o' parking
- An extra, sizeable room(s) to hold Ranch Camp (our youth program)
- No more than 30% of our monthly income
- In the Mount Vernon area of Alexandria
- Easy to find
- In great condition

#### **Share this:**

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

#### **Like this:**

Like Loading...

### [Houston: Lessons for a Pioneer Church](#)

22 Tuesday May 2007

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [stories from a pioneer church](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

I took a sociology class in college that examined, as a case study, the population boom in Houston. Houston is now the 4th largest city in the U.S., with a population of more than 2 million people. But it wasn't always. In the late 70s, it experienced incredible growth in a very short time span.

But Houston did not foresee or plan for such rapid and enormous growth. For example, the city's infrastructure, services, and zoning were not able to accommodate all the new people. The results were unbearable traffic jams, tremendous social needs, and absurd neighborhoods where an alcohol store or gas station could be next door to a Texas mansion. Having lived in a suburb of Houston for 4 years, I can attest: the city is simply "uncomfortable." Unlike Dallas or San Antonio, people don't go to Houston for fun. They go to Houston because they have to. Houston boomed 'til it busted.

Like Houston in the mid-70s, our Fellowship is at a critical moment right now. We are like a puppy whose disproportionate and awkward-looking paws foretell the size it will one day be. The challenge for us right now is planning appropriately for our foreseeable growth. We want to make sure we have the structure, plan, and services in place to accommodate any and every person who wants to be a part of our Fellowship. I don't want us to commit the Houston mistake; I don't want people to come to our church simply because they "have to." Instead, I want people to love being a part of our Fellowship, to look forward to services and events all week, and to get so much out of being part of our body that they can't help but pour out love, gifts, and truth into other people's lives.

Please join us as we pray constantly for wisdom and guidance during this process.

#### **Share this:**

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

#### **Like this:**

Like Loading...

### [Genealogy](#)

17 Thursday May 2007

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [kid stories, spiritual truths](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

I spent this past weekend in Arizona visiting my grandparents, my parents, and my sister. It was very important to me that my children meet their great grandparents (and vice versa), and I wanted to take this trip while I was able to and while my grandparents were able to enjoy the kids.

While Button and Cattle Pie probably will not remember meeting them, or playing the piano and painting with Great Papa (my grandpa is an accomplished musician and artist), they will have the pictures and videos. And the connection will have been made. It is critical that our kids know their heritage, know their legacy, and know where they come from.

And it is critical that we know where we came from too. We all have a legacy; we all have a heritage; we all have a family.

We're used to thinking of our genealogy as a biological one — who married whom, who begot whom, etc. You know, your classic "family tree." But we also have a spiritual family tree full of spiritual ancestors. Jesus had a follower who shared the gospel with someone, who shared the gospel with someone, who — many generations later — shared the gospel with me. And I have inherited a spiritual legacy and a spiritual heritage from them.

Just like we have many relatives who have shaped our biological heritage, we have many spiritual brothers and sisters who have shaped our spiritual heritage. My spiritual influence and shaping did not end with the camp counselor who initially led me to Jesus; it has been shaped and added to by numerous people since then, including my mother, my in-laws, friends, and some elders and pastors. These people are my immediate spiritual family. They all have shared the gospel with me, in word and in action, as I have grown as a Christian.

I have a broader spiritual family as well: all people who follow Jesus are part of the same family. The Bible tells us that we are co-heirs with Jesus in all that is His. And that we are His brothers and sisters, grafted into His family tree. That is why churches sometimes use the word "family" to talk about their church body, and why people sometimes refer to other Christians as "brother" or "sister."

It is critical that we know where we came from spiritually. We all have a spiritual legacy; we all have a spiritual heritage; we all have a spiritual family. Studying the Bible and the writings of church saints throughout history is like reading the journals and writings of your great, great, great grandmother. Cultivating relationships at church and pursuing spiritual mentorship is like spending time playing the piano with your great grandfather.

You won't have a clear idea of where you're going unless you have a clear idea of where you came from.

#### **Share this:**

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

#### **Like this:**

Like Loading...

### [The Art of No](#)

15 Tuesday May 2007

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [balancing it all](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

I need no greater art of No. Lately I have been tired and I'm starting to feel run down. Work is hectic; managing our household is taking a lot of time and energy; and church takes a lot of work, especially during this stand-up phase. I have too much going on.

This past weekend I was in Arizona visiting my grandparents, my parents, and my sister and her fiancé. It was a wonderful break — good food, good times. But when I arrived home last night, all that I left behind hit me like a flood. I have a To Do list 2 sheets long and I don't want to do it. I want to play outside with my kids. I want to get my nails done. I want to get my hair styled with friends.

I have heard saying "no" to various requests on my time and energy. But I realized that what I'm struggling with is not saying "no" to them, it's saying "no" to me. I'm the one who allows myself to have a 2-page long To Do list. I'm the one who convinces myself I can defy the laws of physics and be in 2 places getting 2 things done at the same time.

It is an art — saying No. And it's one I need to master.

#### **Share this:**

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

#### **Like this:**

Like Loading...

Search:

### [Follow Blog](#)

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 904 other followers

### [Recent Posts](#)

- [Belong Blind and Carrying Car Keys](#)
- [More relationships...](#)
- [Another Open Letter to President Obama](#)
- [You Can't Make This Up](#)
- [Button's Take on Birth Control](#)

### [Archives](#)

- [October 2013](#)
- [September 2013](#)
- [August 2013](#)
- [June 2013](#)
- [May 2013](#)
- [April 2013](#)
- [March 2013](#)
- [February 2013](#)
- [January 2013](#)
- [December 2012](#)
- [November 2012](#)
- [October 2012](#)
- [September 2012](#)
- [August 2012](#)
- [July 2012](#)
- [June 2012](#)
- [May 2012](#)
- [April 2012](#)
- [March 2012](#)
- [January 2012](#)
- [December 2011](#)
- [November 2011](#)
- [October 2011](#)
- [September 2011](#)
- [August 2011](#)
- [July 2011](#)
- [June 2011](#)
- [May 2011](#)
- [April 2011](#)
- [March 2011](#)
- [February 2011](#)
- [January 2011](#)
- [December 2010](#)
- [November 2010](#)
- [October 2010](#)
- [September 2010](#)
- [August 2010](#)
- [July 2010](#)
- [June 2010](#)
- [May 2010](#)
- [April 2010](#)
- [March 2010](#)
- [February 2010](#)
- [January 2010](#)
- [December 2009](#)
- [November 2009](#)
- [October 2009](#)
- [September 2009](#)
- [August 2009](#)
- [July 2009](#)
- [June 2009](#)
- [May 2009](#)
- [April 2009](#)
- [March 2009](#)
- [February 2009](#)
- [January 2009](#)
- [December 2008](#)
- [November 2008](#)
- [October 2008](#)
- [September 2008](#)
- [August 2008](#)
- [July 2008](#)
- [June 2008](#)
- [May 2008](#)
- [April 2008](#)
- [March 2008](#)
- [February 2008](#)
- [January 2008](#)
- [December 2007](#)
- [November 2007](#)
- [October 2007](#)
- [September 2007](#)
- [August 2007](#)
- [July 2007](#)
- [June 2007](#)
- [May 2007](#)
- [April 2007](#)
- [March 2007](#)
- [February 2007](#)
- [January 2007](#)

### [Categories](#)

Select Category

[Blog at WordPress.com: The Chateau Theme.](#)

[Follow](#)

### [Follow "Kelly Tshibaka"](#)

Get every new post delivered to your Inbox.

Join 904 other followers

Powered by [WordPress.com](#)

964 bloggers like this:

- [About](#)
- [Resources](#)
- [Speaking](#)

## Kelly Tshibaka

### ~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional



## Monthly Archives: February 2008

### The Boss

25 Monday Feb 2008

Posted by [kshibaka in kid stories](#)

» [Leave a Comment](#)

The other day Niki told Button she couldn't do something she really wanted to do.

Button responded, "Okay, Daddy. You're the boss. But I'm gonna go tell Mommy."

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### Observations on 1 John 3:12

25 Monday Feb 2008

Posted by [kshibaka in Bible study](#)

» [Leave a Comment](#)

*We must not be like Cain, who belonged to the evil one and killed his brother. And why did he kill him? Because Cain had been doing what was evil, and his brother had been doing what was righteous. 1 John 3:12*

**Author:** John, son of Zebedee, son of Thunder, apostle, and author of the gospel of John.

**Audience:** Believers — probably more recent

**Term/Concept:** Evil:righteousness; Cain killed Abel not because of anything he did wrong, but because of his righteousness. Like Abel, Jesus also was killed for his righteousness. When we act like Cain, we nail Jesus to the cross again.

**Verbs:** Slew (past tense)

**Define later:** evil one, evil, righteous

**People/Places:** Cain/Abel

**C/E:** He's deeds were evil and his brother's were righteous, Cain killed Abel ("of evil one" is descriptive and not the C/E relationship)

**Apply:** Check your heart — Is there any one or any other believer whom you are not loving? Whom you are not loving because they are doing better than you? Because their actions expose your shortcomings? Love them.

**Story of Cain & Abel:** "Sacrifice" — that's not choice and therefore not a sacrifice -> it's evil. True sacrifice is righteous.

**Righteous vs. Evil Actions:** Lifestyle decisions, choice to pursue vilifying leads to lack of peace, hollow-ness, jealousy, pride, anger, disbelief, and self-focus.

**Why is this verse here:** To exhort us to love our fellow believers, especially when we're missing the mark (which we all do). If you don't love when it's hard, then you're not really loving and you're not in Christ.

**Who have you acted like Cain towards:** Laurel, Jim, HILSCF-ers, Justis, Niki at times

**When have you suffered like Abel:** in the law firm, episodically throughout school

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### Observations of Psalm 93:1

22 Friday Feb 2008

Posted by [kshibaka in Bible study](#)

» [Leave a Comment](#)

*The Lord is king! He is robed in majesty. Indeed, the Lord is robed in majesty and armed with strength. The world stands firm and cannot be shaken. Ps. 93:1*

**Author:** Probably David, a shepherd boy turned king

**Audience:** People of Israel? For the rest of Ps. 93, though, it's the Lord.

**Most Important Concept:** The Lord is the living and supreme king

**Verbs:** "is", repeated, present tense. Present tense — this verse describes the present as well as the past.

**To do:** Look up original meaning of "world"; compare to "world" in John 17

**Application points for me:**

This is a verse to use in worship

My world cannot be shaken because the Lord is unshakable

**"Lord":** Outside of the context of religion, "lord" connotes to me one who is noble, rich, landowner, powerful, has servants, is not a king but is close and has authority over something, in charge, always regally dressed, trained to fight and also has guards

**Words that are repeated:**

**Clothed** — covered in, shrouded in, part of Him, an attribute/what He is like

**Lord** — For and about Him

**Is** — everlasting attribute

**Relationship b/w Majesty and Strength:** Related, but not necessarily. Strength of character. Strength of presence; of spirit; physical strength. These words inspire different reactions — awe, reverence, pursuit, devotion/fear, stability, peace, and confidence.

**Transition from Lord to World:**

1. World (creation) is evidence to support previous statements

2. Introduces world and its majesty and strength as point of comparison (c.t.) for attributes of the Lord.

**World cannot be shaken or moved (but there are earthquakes...):**

World is not fleeting, unstable, or unreliable

Expression of His will and purpose, so complete

Dependable

Governed by laws — predictable

Much greater than us — so as example of who God is, amazing!

**Reaction to this verse:**

The Lord is dependable, supreme, great in strength and majesty — both reverent fear and great joy and humility that He cares about me.

Some could fear His wrath and judgment given His strength, creation, and righteousness, but this must be read in the context of the story of mercy and grace that is spelled out from Genesis to Revelation.

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### First Piss

20 Wednesday Feb 2008

Posted by [kshibaka in kid stories](#)

» [Leave a Comment](#)

It's a little crude, but I can't think of a better way to describe it: Cutie Pie's first piss.

Niki took him out of the bath the other night and stood him up in his bedroom, butt naked. While Niki was pulling out his diaper and pj's, Cutie Pie hustled out of his room to the wall just outside his bedroom door. He hacked up a foak, aimed, and let it fly...

I'm thinking this kid might be ready to be potty trained. He's young, I know; but c'mon. An intentional urination against the wall? If he can plan and aim that, he can use a toilet!!!

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### Frustrated

20 Wednesday Feb 2008

Posted by [kshibaka in kid stories](#)

» [Leave a Comment](#)

Button came out of her room with her hands mounted on her rib cage (instead of her hips): "Mama, I am reawy fvustrated wif you and Daddy!" she said, so matter-of-factly.

I contained my laughter, "You are? Why?"

"Because Daddy said I couldn't have any blueberries and so did you."

"No, Button. Daddy said you can't have any blueberries now, but you can have them later, after dinner."

"Well, Mama, I'm reawy fvustrated because I want them now."

"I'm sorry, Button, but you'll need to wait a little bit longer. I'm sorry you're frustrated."

She walked off, her hands still jacked up on her sides.

Oh, I delight in this little girl!

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### Rested after a L O N G weekend

20 Wednesday Feb 2008

Posted by [kshibaka in personal](#)

» [Leave a Comment](#)

I took off Thursday before President's Day because I thought I had to come into work on Friday and wanted at least some semblance of a weekend at Niki's parents' house. But my Friday meeting was cancelled (woo hoo), and I am feeling awesome after having a weekend of totally being spoiled by his parents. No cooking. Little cleaning. No getting up before dawn for work or to take care of hungry little nannies.

Thank you, Lord, for this weekend and for my in-laws!!!

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### What Now?

13 Wednesday Feb 2008

Posted by [kshibaka in His mysterious ways, my spiritual journey, stories from a pioneer church](#)

» [Leave a Comment](#)

This past weekend, some people from the fellowship went over to the home of three sisters who are orphaned and living with their grandmother. Our task was to renovate, repair, and clean the home.

I think we all knew it was going to be a challenge, but we underestimated how great of a challenge it would be. Ten of us were there for 3 hours, and though we made a lot of progress, it felt like we had just put a dent in what we wanted to do. It was hard work, and a little bit overwhelming.

So what now? Do we call it quits because it's tough and will take a lot of work to finish what we started? Do we throw our hands up in frustration and brush it off as "somebody else's problem"? Or do we step up our efforts and keep plugging on?

As I've thought about the girl's and their house, the chorus of a powerful Steven Curtis Chapman song keep coming to mind:

*What will you do now that you found me?  
What now?  
What will you do with this treasure you've found?  
I know I may not look like what you expected  
But if you remember this is right where I said I would be  
You've found me  
What now?  
What now?*

And I've remembered Matthew 25:34-40, which foretells something that will happen on judgment day:

*Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.'*

*Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?'*

*The King will reply, 'I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me.'*

I have found Jesus, and I've seen Him in the face of these girls. It's not where I expected to see Him, but it's Him. In the end, I want to be one of those on the right, one of those who are blessed by the Father. Which means that I will do for these sisters of His what I would do for Him.

So what now?

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### Button on Adopting

11 Monday Feb 2008

Posted by [kshibaka in adoption, kid stories](#)

» [Leave a Comment](#)

Over the weekend, Button started talking to me about the orphan we are going to adopt. She's very excited about her new sibling (apparently a sister), and she told me all the things she wants to do with her sister — recounting practically everything she's done in her life:

"Mama! I want the ooorphen to come over to our house to play. And she can sleep in my test wif me. And she can play with my dollhouse wif me. And we can ride in my pink car. And we can go on down the slides. And we can color. And we can read. And we can play horsie. And watch movies. And I'll kiss her. And I'll tickle her. . . ."

And we'll make blueberry pancakes together. And go to Miss Frannie's together. And go swimming together. And go to the library together. And go to the playground together! Yeah!

Mama, I want the ooorphen to stay for all of the days, okay?"

"Okay, Button. That's exactly what we'll do — we'll have the orphan stay for all of the days so she won't be an orphan any more."

"But, Mama? I want lots of ooorophens."

"You do? How many do you want?"

"I want (as she holds up her fingers, counting a little bit faster than she's talking) 1-2-3-4-FIVE. FIVE ooorophens!"

"Me, too, Button! I want 5 orphans too! That sounds like a great idea!"

"No, Mama. I want SIX. SIX orphans!"

"Okay, Button. Let's think about that — we'll have to ask daddy."

. . . "Mama? The ooorphen doesn't have a mommy or a daddy."

"That's right, Button. Orphans need a mom and a dad. And they need a big sister and big brother, too. Do you think you could be a good big sister to an orphan?"

"YES! OF COURSE I can! And baby brater can be a good big bratter, too!"

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### Women: Cathedral Builders

06 Wednesday Feb 2008

Posted by [kshibaka in personal, women's topics](#)

» [Leave a Comment](#)

Many times, I feel invisible. I wonder whether anyone sees the "real me" (whatever that is; sometimes I think she disappeared about 3 1/2 years ago when Button was born). I wonder whether anyone sees what I need. I wonder whether anyone sees what I'm doing. Heck, what am I doing anyway? Am I contributing anything?

And I suspect I'm not the only one who feels this way.

Recently I read a fantastic reflection on a book of the great cathedrals in Europe. The author identified 4 truths from the book that are directly applicable to my life, and to the lives of countless women I know:

1. No one can say who built the great cathedrals — we have no record of their names.
2. The builders gave their whole lives for a work they would never see finished.
3. They made great sacrifices and expected (and received) no credit.
4. The passion of their building was fueled by their faith that the eyes of God saw everything.

It reminds me of a story I heard regarding the building of the national cathedral in D.C.. Builders spent many months carving intricate details into the soaring spires of the cathedral. When asked why they spent so long on details so small that they would never be seen by people, they replied, "We're building for God, not for people."

How true that is for the work we women do. It usually goes unnoticed by people, but God notices. He sees the sacrifices we make every day. He sees the notes we send, the calls we make, the things we say, the meals we prepare, the things we do to make others' lives smoother, the little things that make others feel loved, and the ways we care for others' needs. He sees how we live most of our lives for others, with little in return. But no act of love has been too small for Him to see; no kind thought has gone unnoticed by Him.

The author made a point that really resonated with me: When I really think about it, I don't want my kids to tell their friends who they're bringing home from college for Thanksgiving, "My Mom gets up at 4 in the morning and bakes homemade pies, and then she hand bastes a turkey for three hours, and serves dinner in an immaculate, model-home-like dining room." That would mean I'd given in to covetousness and built a shrine to Martha Stewart. Really, I want my kids to want to come home and to tell their friends, "You're gonna love it there!"

As women, we are building great cathedrals, even though we will never see them finished. In expecting and receiving no credit for our sacrifices, we are ridged of pride and self-centeredness, which makes room for a passion for God and an unwavering faith. If we're building right, we will never get credit. But one day the world will marvel at the sacrifices countless invisible, godly women made as they see cathedrals all around them. To God be the glory.

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### Follow

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 904 other followers

### Recent Posts

- [Being Blind and Carrying Car Keys](#)
- [More relationship...](#)
- [Another Open Letter to President Obama](#)
- [You Can't Make This Up](#)
- [Button's Take on Birth Control](#)

### Archives

- [October 2013](#)
- [September 2013](#)
- [August 2013](#)
- [June 2013](#)
- [May 2013](#)
- [April 2013](#)
- [March 2013](#)
- [February 2013](#)
- [January 2013](#)
- [December 2012](#)
- [November 2012](#)
- [October 2012](#)
- [September 2012](#)
- [August 2012](#)
- [July 2012](#)
- [June 2012](#)
- [May 2012](#)
- [April 2012](#)
- [March 2012](#)
- [February 2012](#)
- [January 2012](#)
- [December 2011](#)
- [November 2011](#)
- [October 2011](#)
- [September 2011](#)
- [August 2011](#)
- [July 2011](#)
- [June 2011](#)
- [May 2011](#)
- [April 2011](#)
- [March 2011](#)
- [February 2011](#)
- [January 2011](#)
- [December 2010](#)
- [November 2010](#)
- [October 2010](#)
- [September 2010](#)
- [August 2010](#)
- [July 2010](#)
- [June 2010](#)
- [May 2010](#)
- [April 2010](#)
- [March 2010](#)
- [February 2010](#)
- [January 2010](#)
- [December 2009](#)
- [November 2009](#)
- [October 2009](#)
- [September 2009](#)
- [August 2009](#)
- [July 2009](#)
- [June 2009](#)
- [May 2009](#)
- [March 2009](#)
- [February 2009](#)
- [January 2009](#)
- [December 2008](#)
- [November 2008](#)
- [October 2008](#)
- [September 2008](#)
- [August 2008](#)
- [July 2008](#)
- [June 2008](#)
- [May 2008](#)
- [April 2008](#)
- [March 2008](#)
- [February 2008](#)
- [January 2008](#)
- [December 2007](#)
- [November 2007](#)
- [October 2007](#)
- [September 2007](#)
- [August 2007](#)
- [July 2007](#)
- [June 2007](#)
- [May 2007](#)
- [April 2007](#)
- [March 2007](#)
- [February 2007](#)
- [January 2007](#)

### Categories

[Blog at WordPress.com](#). [The Chateau Theme](#).

[Follow](#)

Follow "Kelly Tshibaka"

Get every new post delivered to your Inbox.

Join 904 other followers

Powered by [WordPress.com](#)

96 bloggers like this:



- [About](#)
- [Resources](#)
- [Speaking](#)

## Kelly Tshibaka

### ~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional



## Monthly Archives: *November 2012*

### [Button's List of Things for which She's Thankful](#)

29 Thursday Nov 2012

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [giving thanks](#), [kid stories](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

**Tags**

[Parenting](#)

Over Thanksgiving, Auntie Mara had the kids write a list of things they're thankful for. Button's list was impressive — here it is below, as written by her and with parenthetical thoughts from me:

My family  
Food  
Shelter  
Water  
Life  
JESUS (this was in all Caps because this was most important to her)  
Job(s) (meaning the jobs Niki and I have—I continue to be surprised at her economic awareness)  
Toys  
Books  
Phone(s) (she got my old one for her birthday so she could play games on it)  
Electronics (wi, Nintendo DS, etc.)  
Education (her new school and program)  
School  
Love  
Obedience  
Money  
Clothes  
Animals  
Plants  
The world  
Activities in school like...  
Art  
Music  
Computer lab  
PE(Physical Education)  
Library  
Rest  
Fun Times  
Boring Times (LOVE that she wrote this!)  
Subjects at school like...  
Math  
Social studies  
Science  
Health  
People like...  
My teacher  
Strangers (Love that she wrote this, too — how Jesus of her!)  
My principal (yes, may your principal be principled)  
Counselors  
Scientist(s)  
In so on (ha ha ha — and so on!)  
And friends like...  
Leah  
Marissa  
Leah  
Aminata  
Justin and Justin  
Alejandro  
Branch (yes, this is his real name, but I dispute whether he's a friend...)  
Alben  
Nick  
Taylor  
Mrs. Bogacki  
Mrs. Falvey  
Ms. Britton  
Mrs. Lawler  
Ms. Rosen  
And places like...  
Oregon  
Alaska  
New York  
Virginia  
California  
Wisconsin  
Florida  
Montana  
Texas  
Food I'm Thankful for (so my parents know what feed me!) (she then pasted a bunch of food photos and asked if we could please feed her ONLY those things...LOL!)

**Share this:**

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

**Like this:**

Like Loading...

### [Smart Move and Not So Smart Move](#)

27 Tuesday Nov 2012

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [balancing it all](#), [funny](#), [kid stories](#), [raising kids](#), [women's topics](#)

≈ [1 Comment](#)

**Tags**

[Parenting](#)

"Why don't you just cut the boys' hair yourself?" Mom asked. It didn't look too hard, but then I have seen some disastrous haircuts on men... Like when the barber at Mount Vernon Barber Shop left cuts on Joseph's face all around his hair line which eventually became scars. On the other hand, that was a "professional" haircut—could I really do worse?

I started with Slah-his long hair was more forgiving. A pair of scissors and ten minutes later, the boy was clean cut. Grumpy as can be (he far prefers the untamed, rugged outdoor man look), but the job was done.

Smart move.

My ventures into saving time and money continued. I haven't had a chance to get to the salon lately...my nails and eyebrows are seriously showing it. But with a new baby, three other young kids, the move, and ministry, nails and brows just AREN'T the priority.

So I decided to quickly clean up my eyebrows myself. No, not with tweezers, but with a razor. (They were SERIOUSLY overgrown). So I straightened the edge of the arc, trimmed the edges, and... oh no! Accidentally took a perfectly good section right out of the center of my eyebrow...

Oh, how horrific! How do you cover up eyebrow stubble and make it look like eyebrow? Oh wait, eyebrow pencil! I don't have one, but I improvised. And it worked pretty well. Til I looked in the mirror and realized that I looked a lot like my grandma—drawn in eyebrows and all!

Ugh. Not so smart move.

So I'm sitting at the salon this moment, letting the professionals fix my nails and what's left of my eyebrows...

**Share this:**

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

**Like this:**

Like Loading...

### [JoFish's Unrefined Leadership](#)

25 Sunday Nov 2012

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [kid stories](#), [leadership](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

**Tags**

[Parenting](#)

JoFish was heading out of Nana and Kaku's house to play with the cat before breakfast. And, rather authoritatively, he calls out over his shoulder, "Mama, you make breakfast for me!"

Excuse me?

I imagined if Niki had been there... He probably woulda been like, "Oh no you DIDN'T" as he concealed a laugh.

Where did JoFish get this? I swear we're not raising chauvinists...

And just then Nana waltzes into the kitchen like Mrs. Potts in Beauty and the Beast, offering up individualized breakfasts like a short order cook. Hmmm.

Niki disputed the Nana theory, though. He posits that JoFish has innate leadership abilities that simply need to be refined. What is rude when directed towards his Mama is perfectly commendable for a general or Commander in Chief. : )

**Share this:**

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

**Like this:**

Like Loading...

### [Giving Thanks: A List of 1,000 Things](#)

22 Thursday Nov 2012

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [giving thanks](#), [spiritual truths](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

**Tags**

[Parenting](#), [Pastoring](#), [Pioneering](#), [Professional](#)

About this time last year, I read a book Christy gave me: "One Thousand Gifts" by Ann Voskamp. It helped me grieve and process through many big losses and heartaches—the kind that force you to either **re-think the God you know or abandon your faith**.

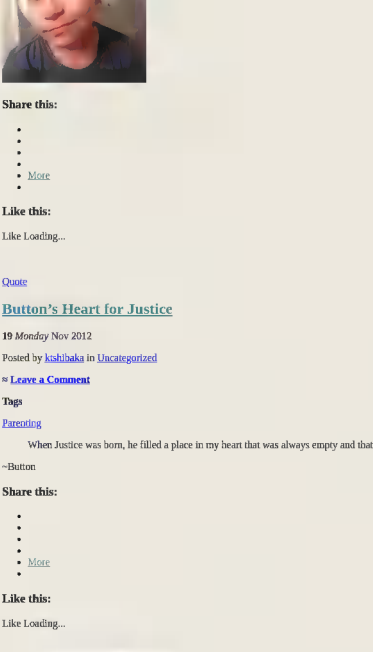
In this book, Voskamp documents her journey through similar big losses and heartaches, finding that the Bible's exhortation to *give thanks in all things* actually was a powerful remedy for understanding why bad things happen, solidifying her faith, and reclaiming joy and delight in the everyday moments of life. I'm *really* simplifying it, but suffice it to say that Voskamp's transparency and authenticity is compelling — she doesn't offer self-help platitudes but life-changing truths centered on the Word of God.

One of the things Voskamp decided to do was to begin capturing things for which she was grateful. She challenged herself to make a list of 1,000 things. It started slowly, but then soon became a way of life for her. She started to **see, and delight in, things she hardly noticed before**.

So I started my own list. According to scripture, giving thanks is **the key to attaining joy and peace**. I need more of both. And if I'm going to be honest, I need *a lot* more of it than most people know...

So the list began:

1. Truth that revives my soul
2. My son's star-struck eyes and sparkly dimples
3. Autumn's reminder that death and fruitfulness are related



And it went on...I hoped to have a list of 1,000 things by this Thanksgiving, a year later. To see life with a different perspective—a God-centered perspective. To have the *peace of God which passes all understanding*. To be filled to overflowing with joy. To have that magical *I know something special* countenance about me that comes with joy.

This morning I'm at #1,485. Oh, and here's #1,486: Having over 1,000 things to be thankful for in this past year. : )

**Share this:**

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

**Like this:**

Like Loading...

[Quote](#)

### [Button's Heart for Justice](#)

19 Monday Nov 2012

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [Uncategorized](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

**Tags**

[Parenting](#)

When Justice was born, he filled a place in my heart that was always empty and that was made just for him.

~Button

**Share this:**

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

**Like this:**

Like Loading...

Search:

### Follow Blog

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 904 other followers

### Recent Posts

- [Being Blind and Carrying Car Keys](#)
- [More relationship...](#)
- [Another Open Letter to President Obama](#)
- [You Can't Take This Up](#)
- [Button's Make on Birth Control](#)

### Archives

- [October 2013](#)
- [September 2013](#)
- [August 2013](#)
- [June 2013](#)
- [May 2013](#)
- [April 2013](#)
- [March 2013](#)
- [February 2013](#)
- [January 2013](#)
- [December 2012](#)
- [November 2012](#)
- [October 2012](#)
- [September 2012](#)
- [August 2012](#)
- [July 2012](#)
- [June 2012](#)
- [May 2012](#)
- [April 2012](#)
- [March 2012](#)
- [January 2012](#)
- [December 2011](#)
- [November 2011](#)
- [October 2011](#)
- [September 2011](#)
- [August 2011](#)
- [July 2011](#)
- [April 2011](#)
- [March 2011](#)
- [February 2011](#)
- [January 2011](#)
- [December 2010](#)
- [November 2010](#)
- [October 2010](#)
- [September 2010](#)
- [August 2010](#)
- [July 2010](#)
- [June 2010](#)
- [May 2010](#)
- [April 2010](#)
- [March 2010](#)
- [February 2010](#)
- [January 2010](#)
- [December 2009](#)
- [November 2009](#)
- [October 2009](#)
- [September 2009](#)
- [August 2009](#)
- [July 2009](#)
- [June 2009](#)
- [May 2009](#)
- [March 2009](#)
- [February 2009](#)
- [January 2009](#)
- [December 2008](#)
- [November 2008](#)
- [October 2008](#)
- [September 2008](#)
- [August 2008](#)
- [July 2008](#)
- [June 2008](#)
- [May 2008](#)
- [April 2008](#)
- [March 2008](#)
- [February 2008](#)
- [January 2008](#)
- [December 2007](#)
- [November 2007](#)
- [October 2007](#)
- [September 2007](#)
- [August 2007](#)
- [July 2007](#)
- [June 2007](#)
- [May 2007](#)
- [April 2007](#)
- [March 2007](#)
- [February 2007](#)
- [January 2007](#)

### Categories

Select Category

[Blog at WordPress.com - The Chateau Theme](#)

[Follow](#)

Follow "Kelly Tshibaka"

Get every new post delivered to your Inbox.

Join 904 other followers

Powered by [WordPress.com](#)

%d bloggers like this:

- [About](#)
- [Resources](#)
- [Speaking](#)

## [Kelly Tshibaka](#)

### ~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional

Search:



## Monthly Archives: *October 2013*

### [Being Blind and Carrying Car Keys](#)

07 Monday Oct 2013

Posted by [kushibaka](#) in [deep thoughts, discipling, healing, His mysterious ways, leadership, minisrty, spiritual truths, women's topics](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

Gail McWilliams went blind during her pregnancies. She chose her children over her eyesight. And she believes in Jesus—the God who heals at any moment. Knowing her blindness could change any moment, she carries her car keys with her everywhere she goes.

What do you have in your hand that demands hope?

You were born on purpose, with purpose, for purpose. Our God is a drama king—He sets us up for the impossible so He can be glorified and we can grow.

You've been consumed by worries—but be consumed by this: God has placed you where you are for a purpose that only you can accomplish. Anyone can have your position, but *you* have your position. Why? What are you going to do with the influence He has given you?

Live your life for what you cannot see—live life for a vision that's ahead of you, one that you can't yet see, that's impossible *but for* God.

Do you love people? If not, don't pastor or minister to them. Develop your love and patience. An develop true grit—speak truth in love. They need truth, counsel, help—if you're not going to give it to them, then who? Ministry is about people; it's our pleasure to serve them! Please God and serve people—that's where greatness is found.

Have eyes to see the small things right in front of you that demand hope, compel vision, and require faith for the impossible. Have eyes to see what God is doing.

There's joy in the journey of following the promptings of God. Having joy is a choice.

There's a championship to be won. Don't get stuck on the 50 yard line in indecision, fear, or disbelief. Believe that He will use you right where you are, in the midst of the awkward and the flub ups and the failures. Tears do not negate faith. They do not negate purpose. Run the race.

Be consumed with passion for what you do, for people and loving them.

You're not stuck—you're in position! Don't overlook the opportunities right in front of you! Quit surviving and try living!

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

Like this:

Like Loading...

[Quote](#)

### [More relationsh...](#)

05 Saturday Oct 2013

Posted by [kushibaka](#) in [Uncategorized](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

More relationships are killed by passivity than abuse

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

Like this:

Like Loading...

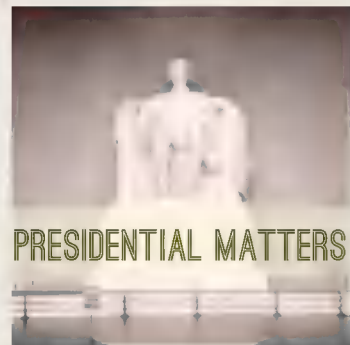
### [Another Open Letter to President Obama](#)

03 Thursday Oct 2013

Posted by [kushibaka](#) in [Uncategorized](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

 [Reblogged from Just Isaac:](#)



In light of the government shutdown and subsequent presidential address to the country, I felt compelled to write this letter to President Barack Obama. Perhaps in it you can find your own frustration that is beyond ideals, politics and policies. It is a frustration in leadership.

Dear Mr. President,

I readily admit I do not know the complexity of your role.

[Read more... 826 more words](#)

Our friend Isaac just visited us a couple weeks ago. I got a text from him earlier this week that made me feel really loved. It said something to the effect of: "I used to not care much about politics. But this shutdown is making me really angry." So he wrote this letter to the President. It's a great letter. But what I admire most of all about it is that, like with all things about Isaac, it's motivated by love—love for our country, love for our leaders, and love for the people of the DC community.

Search:

### Follow Blog

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 904 other followers

### Recent Posts

- [Being Blind and Carrying Car Keys](#)
- [More relationsh...](#)
- [Another Open Letter to President Obama](#)
- [You Can't Make This Up](#)
- [Burton's Take on Birth Control](#)

### Archives

- [October 2013](#)
- [September 2013](#)
- [August 2013](#)
- [June 2013](#)
- [May 2013](#)
- [April 2013](#)
- [March 2013](#)
- [February 2013](#)
- [January 2013](#)
- [December 2012](#)
- [November 2012](#)
- [October 2012](#)
- [September 2012](#)
- [August 2012](#)
- [July 2012](#)
- [June 2012](#)
- [May 2012](#)
- [April 2012](#)
- [March 2012](#)
- [January 2012](#)
- [December 2011](#)
- [November 2011](#)
- [October 2011](#)
- [September 2011](#)
- [August 2011](#)
- [July 2011](#)
- [April 2011](#)
- [March 2011](#)
- [February 2011](#)
- [January 2011](#)
- [December 2010](#)
- [November 2010](#)
- [October 2010](#)
- [September 2010](#)
- [August 2010](#)
- [July 2010](#)
- [June 2010](#)
- [May 2010](#)
- [April 2010](#)
- [March 2010](#)
- [February 2010](#)
- [January 2010](#)
- [December 2009](#)
- [November 2009](#)
- [October 2009](#)
- [September 2009](#)
- [August 2009](#)
- [July 2009](#)
- [June 2009](#)
- [May 2009](#)
- [March 2009](#)
- [February 2009](#)
- [January 2009](#)
- [December 2008](#)
- [November 2008](#)
- [October 2008](#)
- [September 2008](#)
- [August 2008](#)
- [July 2008](#)
- [June 2008](#)
- [May 2008](#)
- [April 2008](#)
- [March 2008](#)
- [February 2008](#)
- [January 2008](#)
- [December 2007](#)
- [November 2007](#)
- [October 2007](#)
- [September 2007](#)
- [August 2007](#)
- [July 2007](#)
- [June 2007](#)
- [May 2007](#)
- [April 2007](#)
- [March 2007](#)
- [February 2007](#)
- [January 2007](#)

### Categories

Select Category

[Blog at WordPress.com: The Chateau Theme.](#)

[Follow](#)

Follow “[Kelly Tshibaka](#)”

Get every new post delivered to your Inbox.

Join 904 other followers

Powered by [WordPress.com](#)

%d bloggers like this:

- [About](#)
- [Resources](#)
- [Speaking](#)

## Kelly Tshibaka

### ~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional

Search:



## Monthly Archives: March 2009

### Children's Ministry – Lessons Learned

31 Tuesday Mar 2009

Posted by [kshibaka in kid stories, ministry, raising kids, spiritual truths, stories from a pioneer church](#)

≈ [2 Comments](#)

When we started our children's program, I was enthusiastic about it. Other people in our body were willing to help, but they did not share my same level of enthusiasm. I spent nearly a year in children's church every Sunday just trying to keep it going. My enthusiasm quickly waned and it became a struggle for me, for the kids, and for our volunteers.

A couple people in the body had expressed an interest in children, but not so much in the program as it currently was running. I gathered them together and we decided to start from scratch. Here are some "tips" I can pull together as to why it has continued so well for the past 6 months or so:

1. Niki & I got excited about kids' ministry again. It became more than just a "we gotta do this" and became a passion for us. The heart of the volunteers will follow the heart of the pastors.
2. We started over. In being willing to scrap "my program" and the "way I do things," we were able to build up the kids program the way the team saw it – not just the way I saw it. This led to better ideas, more creativity, and "buy in" from the people who would be partnering in serving in this ministry.
3. We educated ourselves. We read George Barna's *Transforming Children Into Spiritual Champions* and Becky Fisher's *Redefining Children's Ministry*. Both were inspiring and confirmed a lot of what we already felt led to do.
4. We spent several months developing a strategic plan. This ensured we were all on the same page and catalyzed us to turn concept into action.
5. We found a curriculum that worked for us – kids on the move. It has helped to guide and direct our efforts. Caution to the ministry team, though – we are currently fighting trusting too much in the curriculum and not taking more of the kids' program to God in prayer.
6. We "went all out." With the pastor's support, we were able to buy the stuff we needed – including the mascot outfit. These things send a message – to the kids, the parents, the non-parents, and the ministry team: We value kids.
7. We got people involved by delegating activities, inviting them to participate, and letting them have ownership. Soliciting advice, letting them run a meeting, letting them make a decision about a "goal" in the strategic plan – these were ways that we gradually raised up people in leadership.
8. One of the hardest things for me to was to let go — to proactively release things to our children's ministry director as he became more and more open to taking on leadership.
9. Keeping people excited – two ideas are 1) to continue to remind people why we're doing this — our shared values, mission, purpose, and 2) to talk to one another about the exciting things God is doing in our lives and the lives of the kids.
10. As we grow, we intend to develop a youth group for kids in 7th grade and above. It's called Youth Speaks. We have three people who are just WAITING to start this group. It would meet separately from Sunday service, though. One of our values is to train and equip kids for ministry. To that end, older kids (above 6th grade) would be in main service where they can learn like adults. This is the children's ministry team meets at least once a month, sometimes a couple more times with meetings on certain issues after church. The team leaders meet during the week to prep the lesson for Sunday. We have 5 people on the team who can lead on a Sunday (soon it will be 7). Two of these people, plus two other volunteers, lead the kids on Sunday. Our children's ministry Director & his wife handle the admin for the meetings — when they are, what the agenda is, etc. I used to do this, but this is one of those things that gradually shifted to them. They're doing a much better job with it. : D
11. The children's ministry team meets at least once a month, sometimes a couple more times with meetings on certain issues after church. The team leaders meet during the week to prep the lesson for Sunday. We have 5 people on the team who can lead on a Sunday (soon it will be 7). Two of these people, plus two other volunteers, lead the kids on Sunday. Our children's ministry Director & his wife handle the admin for the meetings — when they are, what the agenda is, etc. I used to do this, but this is one of those things that gradually shifted to them. They're doing a much better job with it. : D

Kids' ministry is so near and dear to my heart, but I also admit that I don't have much experience with this. After more than 2 years, only 6 months of it has been going really well. : D

#### Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

#### Like this:

Like Loading...

### Listening to God

24 Tuesday Mar 2009

Posted by [kshibaka in my spiritual journey, spiritual truths, women's topics](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

I read a book – Hand to Hand: From Combat to Healing by Nigel Mumford. It was great, for so many reasons. But one thing Mumford recommended was taking time to listen to God – 20 minutes of sitting in silence, not praying anything, and listening actively.

I've been trying this – along with contemplative prayer. But without much success or continued perseverance. Instead, I sleep a lot. Or make a lot of to do lists during this time. NOT the point.

The guidance Mumford gave was good – he said listen to God like you listen to a person. And conversely, he said to practice actively listening to people in order to get better at listening to God. He wrote about how he tried this for 20 minutes a day for a week with nothing! And then he heard very directly God speak something random – which turned out to be a word of knowledge regarding the life of one of the people he counseled later that day. It was something only God would know, and when Mumford shared it with the person, she knew God heard her and knew her situation. Very cool.

Any case, yesterday I tried it. Sat for 15 minutes or so and just listened. I had some distracting day-dreamy type thoughts, as well as the "don't forget to..." administrative panic that I seem to be under perpetually. But there also were some real gems in there – nothing super clear like "GOD TOLD ME..." but more like passing thoughts or impressions that I had no reason to think on my own. I was surprised by how many "thoughts within the thoughts" I had during this short time. But I was even more surprised by how relaxed and chilled out I felt afterwards. It was like I had taken a long nap or gotten a massage. How bizarre.

Well, so, I think I'm going to try it again today. We'll see what happens!

#### Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

#### Like this:

Like Loading...

### Tickle Fest

24 Tuesday Mar 2009

Posted by [kshibaka in kid stories](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

Button, Siyah, and I had quite the tickle fest last night. It started when Siyah decided to streak through the family room and I chased him upstairs, tickling him. When he would get away from me, he would shake his bottom, taunting me, and saying "shake my booty! shake my booty!" I have no idea where he got that from, but I was laughing so hard it didn't matter.

When I was trying to get him ready for bed, he would keep wiggling away from me – determined to stay in his birthday suit. And then he'd go right back to the booty shakin' taunt. Well, after awhile, enough was enough. But he's strong enough now that I couldn't keep him still long enough to get his jammies on. He's wiggle and squirm, and then he was right back to shakin it. I was laughing so hard.

Button jumped in on the fun, too. She would tackle me (rough girl I've got) and tickle me herself. I tried to pit them against each other (C'mon, sister! Let's get brother!), but it didn't work. Instead, they got ME!

We had such fun – definitely a memory to last a lifetime.

#### Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

#### Like this:

Like Loading...

### Give Me Your Heart

18 Wednesday Mar 2009

Posted by [kshibaka in adoption, my spiritual journey, spiritual truths](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

One of my prayers lately is that God would make me more like Him by giving me His heart, His eyes, and His thoughts. My eyes get opened to something, and then I wonder how much else I don't see! My heart gets awakened to something, and then I wonder how many other things I'm closed off to?

For example, after we knew we would be adopting from Ethiopia, we have encountered *countless* people of Ethiopian heritage. They are everywhere! And they always have been... it's just that now my eyes have been opened.

Or take adoption, in general. I am astounded at how many adoption stories, orphan stories, etc. we have encountered in the past year. From movies, to news stories, to books, to colleagues, to random coffeshouse interactions, to Angelina Jolie — the cause of the orphaned is highlighted everywhere! And yet only recently has my heart been truly opened to their plight.

These lyrics to this Brandon Heath song really capture the essence of my prayer right now:

Chorus  
Give me your eyes for just one second  
Give me your eyes so I can see  
Everything that I keep missing  
Give me your love for humanity  
Give me your arms for the broken hearted  
Ones that are far beyond my reach  
Give me your heart for the ones forgotten  
Give me your eyes so I can see

I've Been there a million times  
A couple of million eyes  
Just moving past me by  
I swear I never thought that I was wrong  
Well, I want a second glance  
So give me a second chance  
To see the way you see the people all along

Chorus.

#### Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

#### Like this:

Like Loading...

### Going Deeper

17 Tuesday Mar 2009

Posted by [kshibaka in stories from a pioneer church](#)

≈ [1 Comment](#)

Our church is going through a transition right now. We're moving out of our home and into a building, but that's just a physical representation of what's going on spiritually. Spiritually, we're going deeper. We're maturing.

Our mission is to Love, Liberate, Lead, and Launch. While individuals have been at different parts of that process throughout, I believe our church has been in a predominately "Love" season for awhile. But now we're moving deeper into other areas of our mission statement. We're moving past love into other areas as well.

This means God's doing big stuff within individuals, between people, in our individual ministries, and with the church as a whole. It's kinda like when a rocket ship takes off for outer space — there's a lot of power, movement, and noise, and we're about to break through. There's healings happening, there's hearts being examined by God, there's reconciliation occurring, there's repentance going on, there's repentance, there's withstanding the enemy's attacks, and there's exciting new things happening.

Another picture God gave me for where we are as a body went like this: It's like we've been snorkeling – swimming in an untamed sea and enjoying the wonders all around us. But now we're starting to deep dive. It takes a lot more work. It takes a lot more equipment (or, in our case, *equipping*). And it's not as easy or aesthetically pleasing as snorkeling. But, it's the depths of the sea that hold the greatest mysteries and the greatest wonders, experienced by the few who are faithful and brave enough to venture there.

We could stay a shallow church. But I'm glad that we're committed to going deeper and experiencing the true things of God.

#### Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

#### Like this:

Like Loading...

### Another Swim Day

16 Monday Mar 2009

Posted by [kshibaka in kid stories](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

We took the kids swimming again this weekend. There was a super water slide that Button wanted to slide down, but she was required to take a swim test...again! This time, though, she had to swim all the way down the lane AND BACK. She did it, and Niki got to see her do it, too! It left her pretty tired, though – she couldn't go down the slide as many times as she would have liked. When she was barely swimming – just with her head bobbing above water – I shouted to her to swim on her back. Button interpreted this as spinning in circles, which she did all the way until she got to the wall. At first I thought she was being funny, but then – after about 5 minutes of this – I realized that she had no idea what swimming on her back meant. LOL!

Siyah had an incredible pool day as well. It was the first time he swam without holding onto me or someone else. I put a full life vest on him and gave him a kick board. He was so excited about his new found pool freedom that he kept saying to me, "No, Mama! I can do it by mySELF!" It was awesome to see him finally learn to control his core stability instead of losing balance in the water, flopping over onto his back like a helpless turtle, and then sinking below the water with a panicked look on his face. Hopefully those days are over!

#### Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

#### Like this:

Like Loading...

### Comfort in Weaknesses

07 Saturday Mar 2009

Posted by [kshibaka in Bible study](#)

≈ [2 Comments](#)

So now I am glad to boast about my weaknesses so that the power of Christ may work through me. Since I know it is all for Christ's good, I am quite content with my weaknesses, and with insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities. For when I am weak, then I am strong. 2 Corinthians 12:8-10

Recently I have been meditating on this verse. It is so rich and nuanced, I'm not going to go into it all right now. But one thing that is perplexed me is how do I become quite content in weaknesses, insults, and the rest of the list? It can't be a fake, on-the-outside contentment. This is a deep and genuine contentment. Where could that come from?

Looking back to earlier verses in the chapter, it talks about "to keep me from getting puffed up." In fact, a recurring theme in the chapter is humility. Paul instructs us not to be quite content with our weaknesses and quite content with insults is because when we are confronted with them, they keep us humble (assuming, of course, that we don't react defensively and out of pride)? And any opportunity we have to embrace humility and reject/rid ourselves of pride is something in which we can take great contentment.

Weaknesses, insults, etc. in and of themselves are not a source of contentment for me. Just being honest. But if I change my perspective on it to recognize that weaknesses, insults, etc. are a way of keeping me humble and preventing me from walking in pride, then that's something in which I can take great contentment — it's like they serve a protective purpose.

#### Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

#### Like this:

Like Loading...

### Homework

07 Saturday Mar 2009

Posted by [kshibaka in kid stories, raising kids](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

Every night I possibly can, I do "homework" with the kids. The kids are learning how to read — we're working through a leap to read book and the kids get an M&M for each page they work through. We also practice writing and — for Siyah — drawing and coloring in the lines. Sometimes we also go through phonics and word recognition cards.

The other night, we used playing cards to practice math. For example, I put a 4 and 1 down on the ground and asked, "4 plus 1 equals what?" Then when Button put down a 5 on top of the cards, she got an M&M. This was a huge hit — a game for the kids, but they worked through some pretty heavy math problems in the process. I was impressed with both of them!

I'm doing homework with them — not only because I'm spending time with them, but also because I like teaching them new things. The other thing we've started doing lately is taking all of our homework to a coffee shop and spending a couple hours there together drinking hot chocolate and working together. They love it – they feel like grown ups. And I love it because I'm getting to do a bit of my dream – home school my kids – and I get to share special memories with them.

#### Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

#### Like this:

Like Loading...

### There is Greatness in You

07 Saturday Mar 2009

Posted by [kshibaka in kid stories, raising kids](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

One of our goals as parents is to drill truth into our kids' hearts at a young age. Lately, Niki has been telling each of the kids the same affirmation every night: There is greatness in you. God has made you to do great things.

The first couple times he did this, the kids either acted annoyed by it or thought it was humorous: "Daddy?! Why do you always say 'there's greatness in you'?" But lately, they have really bought into it. The other night, after Niki kissed Button goodnight, she called out to him, "Daddy! You forgot to say the greatness part!!!" And after recently saying the phrase to Siyah, he responded enthusiastically, "It's twice, daddy!!! It's twice!!!"

#### Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

#### Like this:

Like Loading...

### Siyah, Cici, and the Cookies

07 Saturday Mar 2009

Posted by [kshibaka in kid stories](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

The kids' daycare provider, Cici, is on a strict diet. But someone brought cookies for them, and they had been sitting on the main table all day. She had been exercising great restraint all day, but the cookies were so tempting. She started to consider eating one – just one – and reluctantly began to reach for it.

Right then in her moment of weakness, Siyah rounded the corner and caught her:

"(Gasp!) Cici! Are you s'posed to?!"  
She was so busted. "Siyah! Be quiet!"  
He took a different approach. "Well...can I have one, too, then?"  
: D

#### Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

#### Like this:

Like Loading...

← Older posts

Search:

### Follow Blog

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 904 other followers

### Recent Posts

- [Being Blind and Carrying Car Keys](#)
- [More Relationships...](#)
- [Another Open Letter to President Obama](#)
- [Button's Make This Up](#)
- [Button's Take on Birth Control](#)

### Archives

- October 2013
- September 2013
- August 2013
- June 2013
- May 2013
- April 2013
- March 2013
- February 2013
- January 2013
- December 2012
- November 2012
- October 2012
- September 2012
- August 2012
- July 2012
- June 2012
- May 2012
- April 2012
- March 2012
- February 2012
- January 2012
- December 2011
- November 2011
- October 2011
- September 2011
- August 2011
- July 2011
- April 2011
- March 2011
- February 2011
- January 2011
- December 2010
- November 2010
- October 2010
- September 2010
- August 2010
- July 2010
- June 2010
- May 2010
- April 2010
- March 2010
- February 2010
- January 2010
- December 2009
- November 2009
- October 2009
- September 2009
- August 2009
- July 2009
- June 2009
- May 2009
- March 2009
- February 2009
- January 2009
- December 2008
- November 2008
- October 2008
- September 2008
- August 2008
- July 2008
- June 2008
- May 2008
- April 2008
- March 2008
- February 2008
- January 2008
- December 2007
- November 2007
- October 2007
- September 2007
- August 2007
- July 2007
- June 2007
- May 2007
- April 2007
- March 2007
- February 2007
- January 2007

### Categories

Select Category

Blog at [WordPress.com](#) - The Chateau Theme.

[Follow](#)

Follow "Kelly Tshibaka"

Get every new post delivered to your Inbox.

Join 904 other followers

Powered by [WordPress.com](#).

%d bloggers like this:



- [About](#)
- [Resources](#)
- [Speaking](#)

## Kelly Tshibaka

### ~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional

Search:



## Monthly Archives: *December 2011*

### [My Wife Will Do It](#)

**14** *Wednesday* Dec 2011

Posted by [kushibaka](#) in [kid stories, raising kids](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

Siah informed me that he did not plan to get married or have babies because he didn't want to have to change any pooppy diapers!

"That's okay, Siah, you don't have to get married or have kids if you don't want to."

Then he gets a glint in his eye and says, "I know! I'll have my WIFE change all he pooppy diapers!"

Oh no he didn't! I started tickling him and grilling him all at the same time.

"What?! Your WIFE?! Who changed your pooppy diapers?"

Between his laughter he said, "You!"

"And who else?!"

Again, laughing, "Daddy!"

"That's right. And who changes Joseph's pooppy clapers?"

"You!!!"

"And what about daddy?! Doesn't daddy change Joseph's pooppy diapers?!"

The laughter was building at this point, so Siah was nearly squealing when he responded, "NO! NOT REALLY!!"

Oh, what kids observe. I realized he won the argument...

**Share this:**

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

**Like this:**

Like Loading...

### [Encouraging Our Kids' Academic Growth](#)

**12** *Monday* Dec 2011

Posted by [kushibaka](#) in [raising kids](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

We want to encourage our kids' further academic development at home, not just leave it to the school to educate them. Previously we have worked through math (addition, subtraction, multiplication), English, and Spanish flashcards. To incentivize them, I would establish a goal of a certain amount of cards they had to get right the first time, and if they did, then they earned a certain treat, like a piece of candy, dessert, or option to watch t.v. (which we only allow on weekends).

Now that the kids have mostly outgrown the flashcards, I wanted to start introducing more of the elements of a classical school curriculum. (Inner thought: how do you do that when you're not able to homeschool and they're attending a public school?!)

So I told them and their teachers that when they had library at school, they needed to check out at least one non-fiction book. Then I told the kids that they were required to read the non-fiction book, and they had the option of doing a book report on it for either two dollars or for ice cream from Cold Stone.

It's amazing how much they've grown with just a little incentive. They are identifying and understanding facts; writing paragraphs detailing who, what, when, where, why, and how; developing connections between what they're reading and their life experience; and drawing pictures to illustrate aspects of their stories. Buttom has already read books on Virginia, Pennsylvania, and the Statue of Liberty. Siah has started on the planets—a book on Jupiter and then one on Saturn. It's fun to watch them get excited about what they're learning!

**Share this:**

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

**Like this:**

Like Loading...

### [Gifted or Not Gifted](#)

**11** *Sunday* Dec 2011

Posted by [kushibaka](#) in [raising kids](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

Buttom tested for the gifted program last week. I've been waiting for this moment for 4 years. Even doing what I could at home to anticipate the kind of questions on the test so we could prepare her as much as possible. If she is deemed "gifted," she has access to far greater teachers and curriculum from third grade forward. And if not, then she risks becoming a casualty of No Child Left Behind—where the whole class slows down to the lowest performing student rather than moving at the pace best suited for her.

So she took the test. I was careful to not put any pressure on her, but also to make clear that she needed to perform her best on these tests because she has a tendency to rush through things that she doesn't consider important. "Do your best, Buttom. Go slowly, take your time, and try your best. It doesn't matter if you get some wrong. All that matters is if you tried your hardest."

Oh, but on the inside I wanted her to ace it, no matter what!! It felt like so much was on the line...and she had no clue.

I was sharing some of my inner angst with Niki. What if she doesn't make it into the gifted program?!

"Her giftedness doesn't depend on this test. She is gifted no matter what this test says."

That's a good point. We know her strengths and weaknesses better than any test. We know that she hasn't been challenged in school since Kindergarten. Once we got past "color in the lines" and "take your time," the curriculum hasn't pushed her. When she was out of school for a week and a half, she was able to make up all the homework from the time she missed in two hours one evening at home.

That got me and Niki reminiscing on our respective gifted program experiences. I qualified but opted out; Niki came just short of qualifying. Neither of us were "gifted" students, but we worked hard, did our best, and had the opportunity to attend some of the best universities in the U.S. And we turned out okay. : D

A test can assess only a limited amount. A gifted program can only offer so much. The real indicia of giftedness comes with application and best effort. The real program for gifted students is being challenged by their parents at home—learning, thinking, applying doesn't end in the classroom. It simply begins there.

**Share this:**

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

**Like this:**

Like Loading...

### [Jan and Heather's Wedding](#)

**11** *Sunday* Dec 2011

Posted by [kushibaka](#) in [personal, stories from a pioneer church](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

Jan and Heather's wedding was the first wedding we got to officiate. They asked us to co-officiate, so we had the joint privilege and honor of uniting them as man and wife.

This was a particularly special event for us. First of all, both Jan and Heather hold a very special place in our hearts. Heather joined our church when it was an early church plant. She'd had many experiences with other Christians who had betrayed, rejected, or mistreated her, so when we met her, she had a hard time trusting people. We shared our lives with her, and we trusted her with things that made us vulnerable. And she soon came to trust us and others. She became a faithful and powerful leader in our church family, as well as a licensed pastor!

Heather brought Jan to church and he was so funny, bright, and charming. We really enjoyed him, and we were ecstatic when he chose to put his faith in Jesus Christ. One of the highlights of our ministry was baptizing him into the family.

We love them both, and they are so dear to us. So it was a real honor to be asked to officiate their wedding.

But the other amazing, rewarding part of officiating their wedding was seeing all the relationships they had with people from our church community. Once Heather came to trust others, she became a community generator—she created safe relationships for others who came to trust her deeply.

So as I look around the room, I don't just see Jan and Heather. I see the faces of many people we love deeply who have been part of our church over the past 5 years. And they've traveled a great distance to celebrate with this beautiful, generous, thoughtful couple.

And I remember their stories. The first time they visited our church. The awkward small groups we once had before they knew each other well. How much they have grown in love and faith. The obstacles they've overcome. The victories we have shared. And the strength of their friendships, independent of us.

It was like beholding precious gems of God, a satchel of treasure for us to enjoy. Just realizing in that moment that He had given us the gift of knowing all these people, loving them, watching them grow, seeing them become family to each other. And knowing that this is one of the good things He had planned for us and for them from before time.

The gift of each other. The gift of memories. The gift of wedding celebrations and the beginning of forever covenants. Even more reasons why getting to do ministry is so fantastic!

**Share this:**

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

**Like this:**

Like Loading...

### [It's Hard Being King](#)

**06** *Tuesday* Dec 2011

Posted by [kushibaka](#) in [kid stories, raising kids](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

Josiah (completely out of the blue): Daddy, if I'm a King, why aren't I honored like a king? Why don't I have a king's throne? Why don't I have a king's bed? [He was referring here to the fact that he's named after King Josiah which, apparently, makes him a king as well.]

Niki: Josiah, what makes you a King is what's in your heart. You have the heart of a King. Siah — you're loving, kind, brave, compassionate, honest, and you have a lot of integrity. So, wherever you sit, THAT is the King's throne. And wherever you sleep, THAT is the King's bed. Does that make sense?

Josiah: No, Daddy! Because I'm still not honored like a King. I still have to listen to you and Mommy. I still have to do home work, and I still have to do the book reports you and Mommy make me do.

Niki: Josiah, I'm the Chief King. That's why you have to listen to me. And you have to do your homework and book reports because part of being a good King is gaining knowledge so you can lead wisely and well.

Josiah [with big crocodile tears]: But I'm the Chief King too, Daddy!

At which point, Niki just gave up . . . ☹

**Share this:**

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

**Like this:**

Like Loading...

### [Community and Christmas](#)

**01** *Thursday* Dec 2011

Posted by [kushibaka](#) in [spiritual truths, worldly matters](#)

≈ [1 Comment](#)

There is no community without Christmas. The Gospel story is that God created us to be one with Him and one with each other (community). But that oneness was destroyed with sin. Through Jesus, that oneness is restored again. Oneness created, oneness destroyed, oneness restored through Christ.

Without that baby born in the manger, there is no way for us to live in true community. Thinking of others as better than ourselves. Loving others when it hurts. Giving radically. Choosing to serve rather than take the preferred position lounging at the table. That's what Christmas is about.

It's about a majestic, powerful God choosing to humble Himself and be born helpless among animal dung and then humbling Himself further to die on a cross for something He never did for the sole purpose of being able to live in community with us forever. That's the Christmas story.

And when we see His example, we're challenged and exhorted to do the same. Community isn't a feel-good expression of commonality. It's contending for unity at a personal cost — the ultimate cost, in Jesus' case.

Fundamentally, the Christmas story is all about community (See John 17).

**Share this:**

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

**Like this:**

Like Loading...

Search:

## Follow Blog

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 904 other followers

## Recent Posts

- [Being Blind and Carrying Car Keys](#)
- [More relations...](#)
- [Another Open Letter to President Obama](#)
- [You Can't Make This Up](#)
- [Buttom's Take on Birth Control](#)

## Archives

- [October 2013](#)
- [September 2013](#)
- [August 2013](#)
- [June 2013](#)
- [May 2013](#)
- [April 2013](#)
- [March 2013](#)
- [February 2013](#)
- [January 2013](#)
- [December 2012](#)
- [November 2012](#)
- [October 2012](#)
- [September 2012](#)
- [August 2012](#)
- [July 2012](#)
- [June 2012](#)
- [May 2012](#)
- [April 2012](#)
- [March 2012](#)
- [January 2012](#)
- [December 2011](#)
- [November 2011](#)
- [October 2011](#)
- [September 2011](#)
- [August 2011](#)
- [July 2011](#)
- [April 2011](#)
- [March 2011](#)
- [February 2011](#)
- [January 2011](#)
- [December 2010](#)
- [November 2010](#)
- [October 2010](#)
- [September 2010](#)
- [August 2010](#)
- [July 2010](#)
- [June 2010](#)
- [May 2010](#)
- [April 2010](#)
- [March 2010](#)
- [February 2010](#)
- [January 2010](#)
- [December 2009](#)
- [November 2009](#)
- [October 2009](#)
- [September 2009](#)
- [August 2009](#)
- [July 2009](#)
- [June 2009](#)
- [May 2009](#)
- [March 2009](#)
- [February 2009](#)
- [January 2009](#)
- [December 2008](#)
- [November 2008](#)
- [October 2008](#)
- [September 2008](#)
- [August 2008](#)
- [July 2008](#)
- [June 2008](#)
- [May 2008](#)
- [April 2008](#)
- [March 2008](#)
- [February 2008](#)
- [January 2008](#)
- [December 2007](#)
- [November 2007](#)
- [October 2007](#)
- [September 2007](#)
- [August 2007](#)
- [July 2007](#)
- [June 2007](#)
- [May 2007](#)
- [April 2007](#)
- [March 2007](#)
- [February 2007](#)
- [January 2007](#)

## Categories

Select Category

[Blog at WordPress.com](#). [The Chateau Theme](#).

[Follow](#)

**Follow “Kelly Tshibaka”**

Get every new post delivered to your Inbox.

Join 904 other followers

Powered by [WordPress.com](#)

%d bloggers like this:

- [About](#)
- [Resources](#)
- [Speaking](#)

## Kelly Tshibaka

### ~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional

Search:



## Monthly Archives: July 2010

### It's Not Funny

30 Friday Jul 2010

Posted by [kshibaka in kid stories](#)

[~ Leave a Comment](#)

Slah got out of the pool and was really worked up about the lifeguards calling break time and making the kids get out. He was very animated about the whole thing. "See, Mama! I told you! We NEVER get to be in long enough! The lifeguards ALWAYS make us get out too early. We don't ever get to swim long!" His gaggles were on, but they were too high on his eyes and they were too big for his face—which made him look a lot like a caricature. And he kept gesticulating, and his face was so expressive.

It was hysterical, but Niki, Mara, and I were all listening very intently, trying to hold back our smiles. Slah caught onto this and became incensed with us. He ended his trade with, "Guys, it's NOT FUNNY!!!" (which made us laugh even harder, because of the perfect comedic timing) and he stormed off and, in an act of protest, jumped into the pool!

Share this:

- [Facebook](#)
- [Twitter](#)
- [LinkedIn](#)
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### hummingbirds

30 Friday Jul 2010

Posted by [kshibaka in His mysterious ways, kid stories, raising kids](#)

[~ Leave a Comment](#)

The hummingbirds hovered outside the window, trying to get a sip of the nectar from Nana's bird feeder. "OOOH, LOOK, MAMA!! HUMMINGBIRDS!"

"Yes, Button. Did you know that scientists don't know how hummingbirds fly?"

"Really?? Why not?"

"Well, because scientists don't know everything. God's ways are higher than our ways."

"Oh, right! I'm gonna ask God right now how hummingbirds fly!" She then clasped her hands together in a super over dramatized way, bowed her head, and closed her eyes for a moment. And then in a this-is-sooooo-obvious tone of voice, she said, "Ooh, Mama! God said hummingbirds fly with their WINGS!"

Share this:

- [Facebook](#)
- [Twitter](#)
- [LinkedIn](#)
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### Great Good Okay

28 Wednesday Jul 2010

Posted by [kshibaka in miscariage, personal, women's topics](#)

[~ Leave a Comment](#)

How am I doing?

Great! Good. Okay... We're in the middle of a KWAM at a Foursquare church in Berea, Kentucky. Every time we do one of these conferences, I am amazed at how powerfully God moves in the lives of everyone who attends. It's really remarkable!

But there's stuff going on. Anxieties about my job, concerns about people I care about, unanticipated expenses, mistakes I've made.

And then there's a whole lot of stuff I'm grieving right now. In fact, it's been a pretty tough year and I'm only halfway through! From the loss of our baby (which I'm grieving fully again with her due date just around the corner), to my grampa (I saw him this time last year), to the loss of friends (like Theresa moving to MT), to the imminent loss of my time at home and with my kids (I feel heart sick about hope being deferred). Just a lot going on right now.

Share this:

- [Facebook](#)
- [Twitter](#)
- [LinkedIn](#)
- [More](#)

Like this:

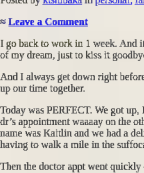
Like Loading...

### Updates on Joseph

28 Wednesday Jul 2010

Posted by [kshibaka in adoption, kid stories, raising kids](#)

[~ Leave a Comment](#)



My baby boy!

Food he likes to eat: Um, everything right now. Even that nasty smelling turkey and beef baby food. He'll eat it, but he doesn't get super excited (usually evident by clenching on his fists and lips and shaking intensely whenever he's seated... must be hard not to be able to express yourself in other ways). He's particularly fond of fruits and veggies, anything we're eating, and ice cream.

Personality: Joseph is quite content, for the most part. He doesn't get that worked up about things being taken from him, siblings being a little rough with him, or general discomforts that other babies do. But he'll clear out a room with his shrieking if he wants something bad (like food or attention). He hates to feel he's on the periphery of the activity. He can be sitting in a high chair at the end of the table while we're all there, but he'll have a total convulsion until he's moved to the center of the room/activity/attention. Awaw! He's also such a contagious giggler. I love to tickle him under his rib cage and call him a giggopotamus!

Development: He's gained 8 pounds in 3 months, and he's 9 months old right now. We're working on continuing to strengthen his legs (he loves his bouncery toy), strengthen his arms by lifting him up, and improve his pincer skills (like picking up small food pieces and snacking on them). His words are the best – he says Mamamamama (that's me!) and dadadada (that's Niki or Button), and babibabab (that's Slah) quite a lot. And he shrieks a lot. The kids think that's so funny because he doesn't have to listen to me and Niki when we tell him to be quiet!

Fun things to do: Joseph likes swimming and bath time (more baths than swimming. I think, because he gets a better splash effect). He also likes being with his siblings, playing or watching cartoons. He LOVES to be held and tooted around the house by me (I've got to pull out my sling again now that we're home). And he generally likes to be outside (all our kids have that in common. I've got to get a tent so we can do some camp outs!)

What People Say: We get more comments on Joseph than we did on our other two kids. I can't figure out why, except that I believe it's something spiritual. He has a magnetism to him, even though he's not a flirt or charmer. Often people say he's the cutest, most precious, or sweetest baby they've ever seen; that he's so adorable; that they want to keep him themselves; and that he's so content (one of the best words to describe him overall). After spending a few moments one-on-one with Joseph, one pastor said that he could feel the power of the Holy Spirit (or the anointing/call of God) powerfully on Joseph. Another pastor saw him and started crying and said there was a call on his life to heal people, to deliver people, and to lead and help his people in Ethiopia. All things to treasure in my heart.

Family Adjustments: We started introducing Joseph to daycare this week because I'll be going back to work next week. He's not doing well! This is so very exciting to me because it means that he's truly, truly attached to us (and me in particular). Even after we bring him home from his short stints at the daycare, he's unsettled and generally disquieted unless he's with me. I couldn't be happier! I mean, I feel for the poor kid. But for him to be experiencing separation anxiety and wanting to cling to me is a HUGE sign that he's attached to us and sees us as his parents. All of this must have happened while we were on vacation because he wasn't like this at all a couple weeks ago. Oh, joy, joy, joy!!!

Share this:

- [Facebook](#)
- [Twitter](#)
- [LinkedIn](#)
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### GREAT DAY

24 Saturday Jul 2010

Posted by [kshibaka in personal, raising kids](#)

[~ Leave a Comment](#)

I go back to work in 1 week. And it makes me sad – I mean, I'm thankful for my job and glad for the routine that I'll get back into. But I will really miss my kids and being at home. It's like a taste of my dream, just to kiss it goodbye until I have another child. So, big tears.

And I always get down right before I go back. So instead I'm trying to be super intentional about making the most of my week of "Saturdays" with the kids between now and then. REALLY living up our time together.

Today was PERFECT. We got up, I had about an hour of quiet time with God, the kids and I had a yummy breakfast (with Jasmine tea, mmmmm), watched some cartoons, and then headed out to a dr's appointment waaaay on the other side of the city. On the way, we saw a college girl walking across Key Bridge (loooooong way) and it's like 110 degrees today. So we offered her a ride. Her name was Katlin and we had a delightful talk til I dropped her off in Georgetown. So rewarding to do ministry in the moment – just to help someone out with their very real needs. I can't imagine having to walk a mile in the suffocating heat of today.

Then the doctor appt went quickly (big smile), and we were in Bethesda (super fancy part of town), and there's a Cheesecake Factory there. So the kids and I went to Cheesecake Factory and had a delightful lunch. The kids were so well behaved, and the food was spectacular. As always. And they've added another cheesecake that I think is their absolute best so far – White Chocolate Macadamia Nut Cheesecake. HELLO???? Thank you, Jesus!

After that we skipped across the sweltering street to Neiman Marcus (super fancy part of town), and there's a Cheesecake Factory there. So the kids and I went to Cheesecake Factory and had a delightful lunch. The kids were so well behaved, and the food was spectacular. As always. And they've added another cheesecake that I think is their absolute best so far – White Chocolate Macadamia Nut Cheesecake. HELLO???? Thank you, Jesus!

Then the doctor appt went quickly (big smile), and we were in Bethesda (super fancy part of town), and there's a Cheesecake Factory there. So the kids and I went to Cheesecake Factory and had a delightful lunch. The kids were so well behaved, and the food was spectacular. As always. And they've added another cheesecake that I think is their absolute best so far – White Chocolate Macadamia Nut Cheesecake. HELLO???? Thank you, Jesus!

Then the doctor appt went quickly (big smile), and we were in Bethesda (super fancy part of town), and there's a Cheesecake Factory there. So the kids and I went to Cheesecake Factory and had a delightful lunch. The kids were so well behaved, and the food was spectacular. As always. And they've added another cheesecake that I think is their absolute best so far – White Chocolate Macadamia Nut Cheesecake. HELLO???? Thank you, Jesus!

Then the doctor appt went quickly (big smile), and we were in Bethesda (super fancy part of town), and there's a Cheesecake Factory there. So the kids and I went to Cheesecake Factory and had a delightful lunch. The kids were so well behaved, and the food was spectacular. As always. And they've added another cheesecake that I think is their absolute best so far – White Chocolate Macadamia Nut Cheesecake. HELLO???? Thank you, Jesus!

Then the doctor appt went quickly (big smile), and we were in Bethesda (super fancy part of town), and there's a Cheesecake Factory there. So the kids and I went to Cheesecake Factory and had a delightful lunch. The kids were so well behaved, and the food was spectacular. As always. And they've added another cheesecake that I think is their absolute best so far – White Chocolate Macadamia Nut Cheesecake. HELLO???? Thank you, Jesus!

Then the doctor appt went quickly (big smile), and we were in Bethesda (super fancy part of town), and there's a Cheesecake Factory there. So the kids and I went to Cheesecake Factory and had a delightful lunch. The kids were so well behaved, and the food was spectacular. As always. And they've added another cheesecake that I think is their absolute best so far – White Chocolate Macadamia Nut Cheesecake. HELLO???? Thank you, Jesus!

Then the doctor appt went quickly (big smile), and we were in Bethesda (super fancy part of town), and there's a Cheesecake Factory there. So the kids and I went to Cheesecake Factory and had a delightful lunch. The kids were so well behaved, and the food was spectacular. As always. And they've added another cheesecake that I think is their absolute best so far – White Chocolate Macadamia Nut Cheesecake. HELLO???? Thank you, Jesus!

Then the doctor appt went quickly (big smile), and we were in Bethesda (super fancy part of town), and there's a Cheesecake Factory there. So the kids and I went to Cheesecake Factory and had a delightful lunch. The kids were so well behaved, and the food was spectacular. As always. And they've added another cheesecake that I think is their absolute best so far – White Chocolate Macadamia Nut Cheesecake. HELLO???? Thank you, Jesus!

Then the doctor appt went quickly (big smile), and we were in Bethesda (super fancy part of town), and there's a Cheesecake Factory there. So the kids and I went to Cheesecake Factory and had a delightful lunch. The kids were so well behaved, and the food was spectacular. As always. And they've added another cheesecake that I think is their absolute best so far – White Chocolate Macadamia Nut Cheesecake. HELLO???? Thank you, Jesus!

Then the doctor appt went quickly (big smile), and we were in Bethesda (super fancy part of town), and there's a Cheesecake Factory there. So the kids and I went to Cheesecake Factory and had a delightful lunch. The kids were so well behaved, and the food was spectacular. As always. And they've added another cheesecake that I think is their absolute best so far – White Chocolate Macadamia Nut Cheesecake. HELLO???? Thank you, Jesus!

Then the doctor appt went quickly (big smile), and we were in Bethesda (super fancy part of town), and there's a Cheesecake Factory there. So the kids and I went to Cheesecake Factory and had a delightful lunch. The kids were so well behaved, and the food was spectacular. As always. And they've added another cheesecake that I think is their absolute best so far – White Chocolate Macadamia Nut Cheesecake. HELLO???? Thank you, Jesus!

Then the doctor appt went quickly (big smile), and we were in Bethesda (super fancy part of town), and there's a Cheesecake Factory there. So the kids and I went to Cheesecake Factory and had a delightful lunch. The kids were so well behaved, and the food was spectacular. As always. And they've added another cheesecake that I think is their absolute best so far – White Chocolate Macadamia Nut Cheesecake. HELLO???? Thank you, Jesus!

Then the doctor appt went quickly (big smile), and we were in Bethesda (super fancy part of town), and there's a Cheesecake Factory there. So the kids and I went to Cheesecake Factory and had a delightful lunch. The kids were so well behaved, and the food was spectacular. As always. And they've added another cheesecake that I think is their absolute best so far – White Chocolate Macadamia Nut Cheesecake. HELLO???? Thank you, Jesus!

Then the doctor appt went quickly (big smile), and we were in Bethesda (super fancy part of town), and there's a Cheesecake Factory there. So the kids and I went to Cheesecake Factory and had a delightful lunch. The kids were so well behaved, and the food was spectacular. As always. And they've added another cheesecake that I think is their absolute best so far – White Chocolate Macadamia Nut Cheesecake. HELLO???? Thank you, Jesus!

Then the doctor appt went quickly (big smile), and we were in Bethesda (super fancy part of town), and there's a Cheesecake Factory there. So the kids and I went to Cheesecake Factory and had a delightful lunch. The kids were so well behaved, and the food was spectacular. As always. And they've added another cheesecake that I think is their absolute best so far – White Chocolate Macadamia Nut Cheesecake. HELLO???? Thank you, Jesus!

Then the doctor appt went quickly (big smile), and we were in Bethesda (super fancy part of town), and there's a Cheesecake Factory there. So the kids and I went to Cheesecake Factory and had a delightful lunch. The kids were so well behaved, and the food was spectacular. As always. And they've added another cheesecake that I think is their absolute best so far – White Chocolate Macadamia Nut Cheesecake. HELLO???? Thank you, Jesus!

Then the doctor appt went quickly (big smile), and we were in Bethesda (super fancy part of town), and there's a Cheesecake Factory there. So the kids and I went to Cheesecake Factory and had a delightful lunch. The kids were so well behaved, and the food was spectacular. As always. And they've added another cheesecake that I think is their absolute best so far – White Chocolate Macadamia Nut Cheesecake. HELLO???? Thank you, Jesus!

Then the doctor appt went quickly (big smile), and we were in Bethesda (super fancy part of town), and there's a Cheesecake Factory there. So the kids and I went to Cheesecake Factory and had a delightful lunch. The kids were so well behaved, and the food was spectacular. As always. And they've added another cheesecake that I think is their absolute best so far – White Chocolate Macadamia Nut Cheesecake. HELLO???? Thank you, Jesus!

Then the doctor appt went quickly (big smile), and we were in Bethesda (super fancy part of town), and there's a Cheesecake Factory there. So the kids and I went to Cheesecake Factory and had a delightful lunch. The kids were so well behaved, and the food was spectacular. As always. And they've added another cheesecake that I think is their absolute best so far – White Chocolate Macadamia Nut Cheesecake. HELLO???? Thank you, Jesus!

Then the doctor appt went quickly (big smile), and we were in Bethesda (super fancy part of town), and there's a Cheesecake Factory there. So the kids and I went to Cheesecake Factory and had a delightful lunch. The kids were so well behaved, and the food was spectacular. As always. And they've added another cheesecake that I think is their absolute best so far – White Chocolate Macadamia Nut Cheesecake. HELLO???? Thank you, Jesus!

Then the doctor appt went quickly (big smile), and we were in Bethesda (super fancy part of town), and there's a Cheesecake Factory there. So the kids and I went to Cheesecake Factory and had a delightful lunch. The kids were so well behaved, and the food was spectacular. As always. And they've added another cheesecake that I think is their absolute best so far – White Chocolate Macadamia Nut Cheesecake. HELLO???? Thank you, Jesus!

Then the doctor appt went quickly (big smile), and we were in Bethesda (super fancy part of town), and there's a Cheesecake Factory there. So the kids and I went to Cheesecake Factory and had a delightful lunch. The kids were so well behaved, and the food was spectacular. As always. And they've added another cheesecake that I think is their absolute best so far – White Chocolate Macadamia Nut Cheesecake. HELLO???? Thank you, Jesus!

Then the doctor appt went quickly (big smile), and we were in Bethesda (super fancy part of town), and there's a Cheesecake Factory there. So the kids and I went to Cheesecake Factory and had a delightful lunch. The kids were so well behaved, and the food was spectacular. As always. And they've added another cheesecake that I think is their absolute best so far – White Chocolate Macadamia Nut Cheesecake. HELLO???? Thank you, Jesus!

Then the doctor appt went quickly (big smile), and we were in Bethesda (super fancy part of town), and there's a Cheesecake Factory there. So the kids and I went to Cheesecake Factory and had a delightful lunch. The kids were so well behaved, and the food was spectacular. As always. And they've added another cheesecake that I think is their absolute best so far – White Chocolate Macadamia Nut Cheesecake. HELLO???? Thank you, Jesus!

Then the doctor appt went quickly (big smile), and we were in Bethesda (super fancy part of town), and there's a Cheesecake Factory there. So the kids and I went to Cheesecake Factory and had a delightful lunch. The kids were so well behaved, and the food was spectacular. As always. And they've added another cheesecake that I think is their absolute best so far – White Chocolate Macadamia Nut Cheesecake. HELLO???? Thank you, Jesus!

Then the doctor appt went quickly (big smile), and we were in Bethesda (super fancy part of town), and there's a Cheesecake Factory there. So the kids and I went to Cheesecake Factory and had a delightful lunch. The kids were so well behaved, and the food was spectacular. As always. And they've added another cheesecake that I think is their absolute best so far – White Chocolate Macadamia Nut Cheesecake. HELLO???? Thank you, Jesus!

Then the doctor appt went quickly (big smile), and we were in Bethesda (super fancy part of town), and there's a Cheesecake Factory there. So the kids and I went to Cheesecake Factory and had a delightful lunch. The kids were so well behaved, and the food was spectacular. As always. And they've added another cheesecake that I think is their absolute best so far – White Chocolate Macadamia Nut Cheesecake. HELLO???? Thank you, Jesus!

Then the doctor appt went quickly (big smile), and we were in Bethesda (super fancy part of town), and there's a Cheesecake Factory there. So the kids and I went to Cheesecake Factory and had a delightful lunch. The kids were so well behaved, and the food was spectacular. As always. And they've added another cheesecake that I think is their absolute best so far – White Chocolate Macadamia Nut Cheesecake. HELLO???? Thank you, Jesus!

Then the doctor appt went quickly (big smile), and we were in Bethesda (super fancy part of town), and there's a Cheesecake Factory there. So the kids and I went to Cheesecake Factory and had a delightful lunch. The kids were so well behaved, and the food was spectacular. As always. And they've added another cheesecake that I think is their absolute best so far – White Chocolate Macadamia Nut Cheesecake. HELLO???? Thank you, Jesus!

Then the doctor appt went quickly (big smile), and we were in Bethesda (super fancy part of town), and there's a Cheesecake Factory there. So the kids and I went to Cheesecake Factory and had a delightful lunch. The kids were so well behaved, and the food was spectacular. As always. And they've added another cheesecake that I think is their absolute best so far – White Chocolate Macadamia Nut Cheesecake. HELLO???? Thank you, Jesus!

Then the doctor appt went quickly (big smile), and we were in Bethesda (super fancy part of town), and there's a Cheesecake Factory there. So the kids and I went to Cheesecake Factory and had a delightful lunch. The kids were so well behaved, and the food was spectacular. As always. And they've added another cheesecake that I think is their absolute best so far – White Chocolate Macadamia Nut Cheesecake. HELLO???? Thank you, Jesus!

Then the doctor appt went quickly (big smile), and we were in Bethesda (super fancy part of town), and there's a Cheesecake Factory there. So the kids and I went to Cheesecake Factory and had a delightful lunch. The kids were so well behaved, and the food was spectacular. As always. And they've added another cheesecake that I think is their absolute best so far – White Chocolate Macadamia Nut Cheesecake. HELLO???? Thank you, Jesus!

Then the doctor appt went quickly (big smile), and we were in Bethesda (super fancy part of town), and there's a Cheesecake Factory there. So the kids and I went to Cheesecake Factory and had a delightful lunch. The kids were so well behaved, and the food was spectacular. As always. And they've added another cheesecake that I think is their absolute best so far – White Chocolate Macadamia Nut Cheesecake. HELLO???? Thank you, Jesus!

Then the doctor appt went quickly (big smile), and we were in Bethesda (super fancy part of town), and there's a Cheesecake Factory there. So the kids and I went to Cheesecake Factory and had a delightful lunch. The kids were so well behaved, and the food was spectacular. As always. And they've added another cheesecake that I think is their absolute best so far – White Chocolate Macadamia Nut Cheesecake. HELLO???? Thank you, Jesus!

Then the doctor appt went quickly (big smile), and we were in Bethesda (super fancy part of town), and there's a Cheesecake Factory there. So the kids and I went to Cheesecake Factory and had a delightful lunch. The kids were so well behaved, and the food was spectacular. As always. And they've added another cheesecake that I think is their absolute best so far – White Chocolate Macadamia Nut Cheesecake. HELLO???? Thank you, Jesus!

Then the doctor appt went quickly (big smile), and we were in Bethesda (super fancy part of town), and there's a Cheesecake Factory there. So the kids and I went to Cheesecake Factory and had a delightful lunch. The kids were so well behaved, and the food was spectacular. As always. And they've added another cheesecake that I think is their absolute best so far – White Chocolate Macadamia Nut Cheesecake. HELLO???? Thank you, Jesus!

Then the doctor appt went quickly (big smile), and we were in Bethesda (super fancy part of town), and there's a Cheesecake Factory there. So the kids and I went to Cheesecake Factory and had a delightful lunch. The kids were so well behaved, and the food was spectacular. As always. And they've added another cheesecake that I think is their absolute best so far – White Chocolate Macadamia Nut Cheesecake. HELLO???? Thank you, Jesus!

Then the doctor appt went quickly (big smile), and we were in Bethesda (super fancy part of town), and there's a Cheesecake Factory there. So the kids and I went to Cheesecake Factory and had a delightful lunch. The kids were so well behaved, and the food was spectacular. As always. And they've added another cheesecake that I think is their absolute best so far – White Chocolate Macadamia Nut Cheesecake. HELLO???? Thank you, Jesus!

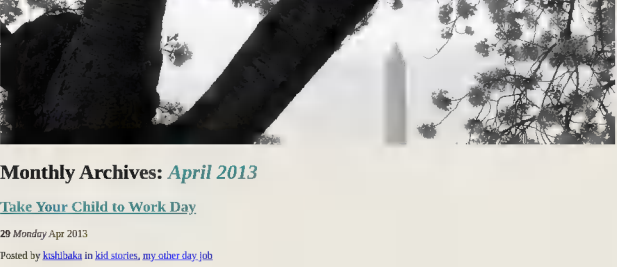
Then the doctor appt went quickly (big smile), and we were in Bethesda (super fancy part of town), and there's a Cheesecake Factory there. So the kids and I went to Cheesecake Factory and had a delightful lunch. The kids were so well behaved, and the food was spectacular. As always. And they've added another cheesecake that I think is their absolute best so far – White Chocolate Macadamia Nut Cheesecake. HELLO???? Thank you, Jesus!

Then the doctor appt went quickly (big smile), and we were in Bethesda (super fancy part of town), and there's a Cheesecake Factory there. So the kids and I went to Cheesecake Factory and had a delightful lunch. The kids were so well behaved, and the food was spectacular. As always. And they've added another cheesecake that I think is their absolute best so far – White Chocolate Macadamia Nut Cheesecake. HELLO???? Thank you, Jesus!

- [About](#)
- [Resources](#)
- [Speaking](#)

## Kelly Tshibaka

### ~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional



## Monthly Archives: April 2013

### Take Your Child to Work Day

29 Monday Apr 2013

Posted by [kashibaka in kid stories, my other day job](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

**Tags**  
[Parenting](#), [Professional](#)

Button went with me to my job...my other other job (I have so many...). You know, the one she's not allowed to go to except for one day a year because it's .... complicated....I got to be a lawyer in the War on Terror. That's about all I have to say 'bout that (any thing else I can neither confirm nor deny).

So any case, I brought Button to work. Here are some of the memorable moments.

"Mama, what happened to your old office? You don't have a door on this one."

"So lemme get this straight. A 'cubicle' is a desk without a door, right?"

"I thought you were supposed to be working." (After I responded, "I am!" she just raised her eyebrows.)

"This is boring." (Yeah, kid, welcome to the working world)

"So...you go to school for 12 years and then college for 4 years and then law school for 3 years and you try your hardest and do really well and then you get to do...this?" (goodbye, college savings plan...)

Or when she passed by the head of the agency (the one who reports to the President) in the hall and got to talk with him — "Is your job hard?" "What's the hardest part?" "Do you have to do a lot of math in your job?" "What subjects do you must need to know for your job?" That was a pretty awesome moment.

**Share this:**  
[Facebook](#)  
[Twitter](#)  
[Google+](#)  
[LinkedIn](#)  
[Pinterest](#)  
[More](#)

**Like this:**  
Like Loading...

### Secret Agent Giver and the Mint Brownies

26 Friday Apr 2013

Posted by [kashibaka in letters, ministry](#)

≈ [1 Comment](#)

**Tags**  
[Pastoring](#)

It was a really really rough week last week. Don't know how else to say it. Sometimes you're the winchlight, sometimes you're the bug. Last week I was the bug.

Just the Spirit broke through in tremendous power during Sunday service. And my heart became encouraged. Things started looking up.

And then when I left for work in the wee wee hours of Tuesday morning, I noticed something unusual on our windshield. Turns out it was a gift -- some mint brownies and a genuine, thoughtful note.

It read, "I wanted to thank both of you for your hearts, your work, your wisdom and your desire to pastor in the field God has put you in. I know it's not always easy, with wolves biting and pulling the wool over your eyes. Sometimes it must feel like you are getting fleeced. It can be enough to make anyone want to go on the lam! But the Good Shepherd has plans to draw you into greener pastures. Be encouraged, know you are loved — A sheepish member of your flock"

I loved not only the thoughtfulness that went into giving such a gift, but also the deliciousness of the brownies, and the cleverness of the message with all of the plays on "sheep" terms!

God knew just what I needed. I have no doubt that He was behind this. After all, the note spoke to things going on in my heart and life that people didn't know about! This random act of kindness weren't there before? Be bold enough to offer them for everyone to hear. This process of interpretation is how tongues becomes like prophecy and builds the whole church rather than just the person speaking in tongues.

Simple kindness. Simple appreciation. I'm \*amazed\* at how it sustained me. Makes me think about how I can randomly encourage and sustain others. : )



**Share this:**  
[Facebook](#)  
[Twitter](#)  
[Google+](#)  
[LinkedIn](#)  
[Pinterest](#)  
[More](#)

**Like this:**  
Like Loading...

### Gotcha

24 Wednesday Apr 2013

Posted by [kashibaka in adoption, kid stories, raising kids](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

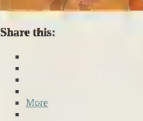
**Tags**  
[Parenting](#)

Today is Jo-Fish's Gotcha Day--the day we held him for the first time. We will celebrate in full this weekend, but today we looked at photos and videos of that day, told stories, and gave him some presents.

We reminded him how much we love him and tickled him silly. We ate cheeseburgers because that's his favorite food. This weekend we will eat Ethiopian food and have cake.

In the middle of it all he looks at me lovingly and says "Mama, why is your belly so big?"

Thanks kid. I love you, too.



**Share this:**  
[Facebook](#)  
[Twitter](#)  
[Google+](#)  
[LinkedIn](#)  
[Pinterest](#)  
[More](#)

**Like this:**  
Like Loading...

### Siah Interprets Tongues

22 Monday Apr 2013

Posted by [kashibaka in discipling, His mysterious ways, kid stories, ministry, spiritual truths, stories from a pioneer church](#)

≈ [1 Comment](#)

**Tags**  
[Pioneering Pastoring](#)

Our church just went through a sermon series on the spiritual gifts listed in 1 Corinthians 12. These gifts include tongues and the interpretation of tongues.

Just two weeks after the teaching on tongues, one of the leaders in our congregation believed he had a word in tongues for us. This was a big deal because we've never had a corporate word in tongues before, let alone from one of our more reserved members. God was clearly leading him--this was not something he'd think up on his own!

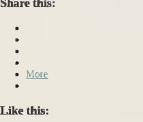
So with great courage he stood at the front and spoke in tongues over us. And then we instructed people to listen--as they heard the word, what thoughts that sound like God pop in their head that weren't there before? Be bold enough to offer them for everyone to hear. This process of interpretation is how tongues becomes like prophecy and builds the whole church rather than just the person speaking in tongues.

It was all very orderly and normal feeling. A couple different people understood/heard/interpreted different parts of the message in tongues, and they worked together. It was pretty cool to experience us stepping out like this for the first time.

And then Siah, little Siah, came up with a piece of paper on which he scrawled to marker the complete interpretation of the tongue. It includes everything everyone said and then some. He read it aloud into the mic. There was no doubt it was God. Some wept, others were amazed, all were moved.

Here's a picture of it. It reads:

Righteousness comes from our faith  
Our prayers are power //  
Call to the Lord  
My strength is divided in you  
Our God is not a silent God  
Worship has power  
Call on My Name  
(Josiah)



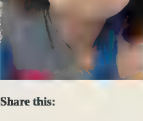
**Share this:**  
[Facebook](#)  
[Twitter](#)  
[Google+](#)  
[LinkedIn](#)  
[Pinterest](#)  
[More](#)

**Like this:**  
Like Loading...

### Inage

### Cuz You Can't Be Too Silly

19 Friday Apr 2013



**Share this:**  
[Facebook](#)  
[Twitter](#)  
[Google+](#)  
[LinkedIn](#)  
[Pinterest](#)  
[More](#)

**Like this:**  
Like Loading...

Posted by [kashibaka](#) | Filed under [kid stories](#)

≈ [1 Comment](#)

### My Supportive Husband

17 Wednesday Apr 2013

Posted by [kashibaka in marriage](#)

≈ [2 Comments](#)

Niki saw one of my blog posts online and asked what it was about. I was encouraged! "Are you one of my blog followers now?"

"No! They just keep frickin showing up on my Facebook page!"

**Share this:**  
[Facebook](#)  
[Twitter](#)  
[Google+](#)  
[LinkedIn](#)  
[Pinterest](#)  
[More](#)

**Like this:**  
Like Loading...

### Buttonism of the Day

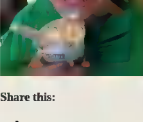
15 Monday Apr 2013

Posted by [kashibaka in kid stories](#)

≈ [1 Comment](#)

**Tags**  
[Parenting](#)

"I am a rarity to this family. Don't take it for granted!"



**Share this:**  
[Facebook](#)  
[Twitter](#)  
[Google+](#)  
[LinkedIn](#)  
[Pinterest](#)  
[More](#)

**Like this:**  
Like Loading...

### I Love Family Day

13 Saturday Apr 2013

Posted by [kashibaka in balancing it all, ministry, my other day job, my spiritual journey, raising kids, recommendations, spiritual truths](#)

≈ [1 Comment](#)

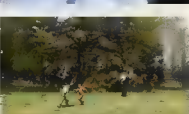
**Tags**  
[Parenting](#), [Professional Pastoring](#)

Family Day is our weekly sabbath. It's the day we do nothing. Well, nothing we don't want to do anyway. Anything that would complete the sentence, "Mama can't play with you, sweetie, because I have to..." doesn't get done. There are six other days to do that. (Well most of the time--one time they forecasted the first freeze of the year that night and I decided not to drain the pipes because it was Family Day and...well... It turns out I DID need to drain the pipes that day...)

Today is Family Day. We slept in 2 hours later than normal, made a yummy breakfast, watched cartoons, played outside, picked up subs and went to the Old Town pier for a picnic lunch, got ice cream at Ben and Jerry's, bought me some fantastically beautiful and comfortable new saris, played tag with the kids in the park, had nap/vidoeo game/quiet time, made iced tea (thank you Kim), played peekaboo with baby, took photos, prayed, found white stores, watched a movie as a family, and had Lorrel come spend the night with us.

Best day ever.

Until next week. : D



**Share this:**  
[Facebook](#)  
[Twitter](#)  
[Google+](#)  
[LinkedIn](#)  
[Pinterest](#)  
[More](#)

**Like this:**  
Like Loading...

### Build the Kingdom, Not a Fan Club

11 Thursday Apr 2013

Posted by [kashibaka in discipling, leadership, ministry, raising kids, spiritual truths](#)

≈ [2 Comments](#)

**Tags**  
[Parenting](#), [Pastoring](#)

Discipling is persevering with faith. And sometimes those you're discipling will not like you when you do what is best for them. More than we realize, we are tempted to lead our disciples by transactional leadership rather than transformational leadership. It's a transaction -- we concede things (things we shouldn't concede, things that are good for them) because we don't want them to be unhappy with us. So, for example, "I won't pressure you to serve if you'll stop complaining." And what's at the root of this thinking? We care more about what our disciples think of us than about what God has told us to do.

Instead, as disciple-makers, we want to be convinced that the greatest and most important thing is to bring about true change within people so they can accomplish true change to the world. We want their life to count! It's worth the price. And a lot of times, that price is our popularity.

We're trying to build a Kingdom, not a fan club. Continue to persevere in faith, with your eyes on the vision God has given you for His people. And continue to work towards bringing about change in their lives, even when it costs.

**Share this:**  
[Facebook](#)  
[Twitter](#)  
[Google+](#)  
[LinkedIn](#)  
[Pinterest](#)  
[More](#)

**Like this:**  
Like Loading...

### War and Rest

09 Tuesday Apr 2013

Posted by [kashibaka in my spiritual journey](#)

≈ [1 Comment](#)

**Tags**  
[Pioneering](#)

Today I'm reflecting on two seemingly contradictory God-given directions/purposes for my life--I'm a warrior and my battle plan is to be still and know that I am God.

I think my answer is found in Deborah, one of the judges of ancient Israel. A ruler of the nation, spiritual and political, who declared and waged war while sitting under a palm tree.

Don't get it all figured out yet (it's laughable that I ever will!), but I'm chewing on it. How to be a warrior and be still at the same time without compromising one or the other.

**Share this:**  
[Facebook](#)  
[Twitter](#)  
[Google+](#)  
[LinkedIn](#)  
[Pinterest](#)  
[More](#)

**Like this:**  
Like Loading...

### War and Rest

09 Tuesday Apr 2013

Posted by [kashibaka in my spiritual journey](#)

≈ [1 Comment](#)

**Tags**  
[Pioneering](#)

Today I'm reflecting on two seemingly contradictory God-given directions/purposes for my life--I'm a warrior and my battle plan is to be still and know that I am God.

I think my answer is found in Deborah, one of the judges of ancient Israel. A ruler of the nation, spiritual and political, who declared and waged war while sitting under a palm tree.

Don't get it all figured out yet (it's laughable that I ever will!), but I'm chewing on it. How to be a warrior and be still at the same time without compromising one or the other.

**Share this:**  
[Facebook](#)  
[Twitter](#)  
[Google+](#)  
[LinkedIn](#)  
[Pinterest](#)  
[More](#)

**Like this:**  
Like Loading...

### War and Rest

09 Tuesday Apr 2013

Posted by [kashibaka in my spiritual journey](#)

≈ [1 Comment](#)

**Tags**  
[Pioneering](#)

Today I'm reflecting on two seemingly contradictory God-given directions/purposes for my life--I'm a warrior and my battle plan is to be still and know that I am God.

I think my answer is found in Deborah, one of the judges of ancient Israel. A ruler of the nation, spiritual and political, who declared and waged war while sitting under a palm tree.

Don't get it all figured out yet (it's laughable that I ever will!), but I'm chewing on it. How to be a warrior and be still at the same time without compromising one or the other.

**Share this:**  
[Facebook](#)  
[Twitter](#)  
[Google+](#)  
[LinkedIn](#)  
[Pinterest](#)  
[More](#)

**Like this:**  
Like Loading...

### War and Rest

09 Tuesday Apr 2013

Posted by [kashibaka in my spiritual journey](#)

≈ [1 Comment](#)

**Tags**  
[Pioneering](#)

Today I'm reflecting on two seemingly contradictory God-given directions/purposes for my life--I'm a warrior and my battle plan is to be still and know that I am God.

I think my answer is found in Deborah, one of the judges of ancient Israel. A ruler of the nation, spiritual and political, who declared and waged war while sitting under a palm tree.

Don't get it all figured out yet (it's laughable that I ever will!), but I'm chewing on it. How to be a warrior and be still at the same time without compromising one or the other.

**Share this:**  
[Facebook](#)  
[Twitter](#)  
[Google+](#)  
[LinkedIn](#)  
[Pinterest](#)  
[More](#)

**Like this:**  
Like Loading...

### War and Rest

09 Tuesday Apr 2013

Posted by [kashibaka in my spiritual journey](#)

≈ [1 Comment](#)

**Tags**  
[Pioneering](#)

Today I'm reflecting on two seemingly contradictory God-given directions/purposes for my life--I'm a warrior and my battle plan is to be still and know that I am God.

I think my answer is found in Deborah, one of the judges of ancient Israel. A ruler of the nation, spiritual and political, who declared and waged war while sitting under a palm tree.

Don't get it all figured out yet (it's laughable that I ever will!), but I'm chewing on it. How to be a warrior and be still at the same time without compromising one or the other.

**Share this:**  
[Facebook](#)  
[Twitter](#)  
[Google+](#)  
[LinkedIn](#)  
[Pinterest](#)  
[More](#)

**Like this:**  
Like Loading...

### War and Rest

09 Tuesday Apr 2013

Posted by [kashibaka in my spiritual journey](#)

≈ [1 Comment](#)

**Tags**  
[Pioneering](#)

Today I'm reflecting on two seemingly contradictory God-given directions/purposes for my life--I'm a warrior and my battle plan is to be still and know that I am God.

I think my answer is found in Deborah, one of the judges of ancient Israel. A ruler of the nation, spiritual and political, who declared and waged war while sitting under a palm tree.

Don't get it all figured out yet (it's laughable that I ever will!), but I'm chewing on it. How to be a warrior and be still at the same time without compromising one or the other.

**Share this:**  
[Facebook](#)  
[Twitter](#)  
[Google+](#)  
[LinkedIn](#)  
[Pinterest](#)  
[More](#)

**Like this:**  
Like Loading...

### War and Rest

09 Tuesday Apr 2013

Posted by [kashibaka in my spiritual journey](#)

≈ [1 Comment](#)

**Tags**  
[Pioneering](#)

Today I'm reflecting on two seemingly contradictory God-given directions/purposes for my life--I'm a warrior and my battle plan is to be still and know that I am God.

I think my answer is found in Deborah, one of the judges of ancient Israel. A ruler of the nation, spiritual and political, who declared and waged war while sitting under a palm tree.

Don't get it all figured out yet (it's laughable that I ever will!), but I'm chewing on it. How to be a warrior and be still at the same time without compromising one or the other.

**Share this:**  
[Facebook](#)  
[Twitter](#)  
[Google+](#)  
[LinkedIn](#)  
[Pinterest](#)  
[More](#)

**Like this:**  
Like Loading...

### War and Rest

09 Tuesday Apr 2013

Posted by [kashibaka in my spiritual journey](#)

≈ [1 Comment](#)

**Tags**  
[Pioneering](#)

Today I'm reflecting on two seemingly contradictory God-given directions/purposes for my life--I'm a warrior and my battle plan is to be still and know that I am God.

I think my answer is found in Deborah, one of the judges of ancient Israel. A ruler of the nation, spiritual and political, who declared and waged war while sitting under a palm tree.

Don't get it all figured out yet (it's laughable that I ever will!), but I'm chewing on it. How to be a warrior and be still at the same time without compromising one or the other.

**Share this:**  
[Facebook](#)  
[Twitter](#)  
[Google+](#)  
[LinkedIn](#)  
[Pinterest](#)  
[More](#)

**Like this:**  
Like Loading...

### War and Rest

09 Tuesday Apr 2013

Posted by [kashibaka in my spiritual journey](#)

≈ [1 Comment](#)

**Tags**  
[Pioneering](#)

Today I'm reflecting on two seemingly contradictory God-given directions/purposes for my life--I'm a warrior and my battle plan is to be still and know that I am God.

I think my answer is found in Deborah, one of the judges of ancient Israel. A ruler of the nation, spiritual and political, who declared and waged war while sitting under a palm tree.

Don't get it all figured out yet (it's laughable that I ever will!), but I'm chewing on it. How to be a warrior and be still at the same time without compromising one or the other.

**Share this:**  
[Facebook](#)  
[Twitter](#)  
[Google+](#)  
[LinkedIn](#)  
[Pinterest](#)  
[More](#)

**Like this:**  
Like Loading...

### War and Rest

09 Tuesday Apr 2013

Posted by [kashibaka in my spiritual journey](#)

≈ [1 Comment](#)

**Tags**  
[Pioneering](#)

Today I'm reflecting on two seemingly contradictory God-given directions/purposes for my life--I'm a warrior and my battle plan is to be still and know that I am God.

I think my answer is found in Deborah, one of the judges of ancient Israel. A ruler of the nation, spiritual and political, who declared and waged war while sitting under a palm tree.

Don't get it all figured out yet (it's laughable that I ever will!), but I'm chewing on it. How to be a warrior and be still at the same time without compromising one or the other.

**Share this:**  
[Facebook](#)  
[Twitter](#)  
[Google+](#)  
[LinkedIn](#)  
[Pinterest](#)  
[More](#)

**Like this:**  
Like Loading...

### War and Rest

09 Tuesday Apr 2013

Posted by [kashibaka in my spiritual journey](#)

≈ [1 Comment](#)

**Tags**  
[Pioneering](#)

&lt;



- [About](#)
- [Resources](#)
- [Speaking](#)

## Kelly Tshibaka

### ~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional



## Monthly Archives: May 2012

### Kids' Chore Chart — An Incredible Solution

27 Sunday May 2012

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [raising kids](#)

» [Leave a Comment](#)

Niki and I were getting frustrated. It seemed like we were always repeating the same things to the kids. "Make your bed." "Did you brush your teeth?" "Who didn't flush the toilet?" "It's not my job to make your lunch-it's your job." "And, of course, the classic, "How many times do I have to keep telling you this?!"

The kids were getting frustrated, too. They're growing up. They want to be trusted with more. They want to have more privileges (privileges are earned through exercising responsibility. I'd remind them). And above all, they wanted more freedom to buy things (which is hard to do when you don't have any money).

See, I'm opposed to giving allowance. I don't understand, or agree with, the message: you get paid just for being a kid. What's up with that? Nobody pays me just for being. I can imagine it now. Oh, Kelly! We're so glad you came into the office today because we just enjoy YOU so much. Here's your paycheck, in advance! And feel free to take off the next couple weeks — we just wanted to give this paycheck to you because you're you!

Right.

Welcome to the real world, kids. You only get paid, and the freedom that comes with managing your money and getting to make the purchases you want, if you perform. It's a hard reality. But you're supposed to do, honor those in authority over you, and you'll not only get paid but also have the time and resource to do lots of things that are fun. (There's a proverb in there somewhere.)

On the other hand, I also am opposed to instilling a you-gotta-earn-my-love paradigm in our kids. Giving them gifts, buying impulsive treats at the store, that's all part of how I let them know I love them.

So how to solve the parent and child frustration simultaneously while also maintaining my parenting values?

And that's when the idea of a kids' chore chart came to mind. The idea would be to itemize their responsibilities and then also add other optional chores/activities they can do. Each chore/activity has a point value associated with it. For each day the kids perform the chore/activity, they earn the points for it. However, for the responsibilities they are expected to perform (which I listed above the blue line), if they fail to perform it, then they get that amount of points taken away. (So if a chore is worth 10 points and they don't do it, then they get 10 points deducted from their total). Then for every 45 points they earn at the end of the week, they get a quarter.

Here's Button's chore chart, as an example. Feel free to customize it to create one for your own parenting needs.

BUTTON										Points	Total Points for Week
Chore	M	T	W	R	F	S	S				
Bed Made										10	
Teeth Brushed AM										5	
Teeth Brushed PM										5	
Room Clean										10	
Toilet Flushed,										5	
Hands Washed										5	
Ready to Go On Time										5	
Lights Off										5	
Chairs Cleared										10	
Lunches Made										15	
Bathroom Cleaned										15	
Toys and Shoes Put Away										10	
Garage Organized										10	
Table Wiped Down										10	
Floor Swept Under Table										15	
Laundry in Basket										5	
Put Away Clothes										10	
Showered										5	
Thoroughly										10	
Car Cleaned Out										10	
Used Manners										15	
Respected Self and Others										20	
Obedied all Directions										20	
Wipe down counters										15	
Sweep deck										20	
Wash table on deck										10	
Fold 1 load of laundry										20	
Bring in trash bins										10	
Take out the trash										10	
Make guest room bed										30	
Clean guest bathroom										30	
Put groceries away										30	
Put dishes away										60	
Non-Fiction book report										10	
Water plants										10	
TOTAL POINTS FOR WEEK											
										45 points = \$25	90 points = \$50
										135 points = \$75	180 points = \$1

Share this:

- [Facebook](#)
- [Twitter](#)
- [LinkedIn](#)
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### 2nd Most Powerful Pastors in the World

25 Friday May 2012

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [funny](#), [His mysterious ways](#), [ministry](#), [my spiritual journey](#), [spiritual truths](#)

» [Leave a Comment](#)

Mom texted: "You'd think you'd tell your mom that you were ranked 2nd most powerful pastors in the world!"

"What? What are you talking about?"

"You didn't know?"

"Knew what?"

"Check out <http://www.50most.com/2012/03/03/50-powerful-pastors-world/&#8221;>

And there it is. Right there on the **world wide web**. In a list of the most powerful pastors in the world, this blogger picked me and Niki as second.

The second most powerful pastors in the world. The WORLD.

I laughed.

I don't know this blogger, or what criteria was used to determine our power ranking. But it was amusing. Almost as amusing as people's responses to our ranking.

My mom sent it out to a bunch of people she knew (and probably some she didn't) because she's just so proud of me and anything I do. (My first diaper comes to mind...)

One of our mentors commented, "Is this a joke?" Leave it to a mentor to keep you humble.

That was Joseph's take, too. He just started laughing at me. Not with me. *AT* me.

Button didn't buy it. "If you're the second most powerful pastors in the WORLD, then why don't we live in a mansion, have a limo, and have servants?" I tried to explain that people who serve God in the Bible weren't rich either. But she countered with the story of Joseph — "He lived in the palace, Mom!"

"And," she continued, "who was the number one pastor?"

"A man named Benny Hinn." (Again, I don't know what criteria was used)

"That's not right," she retorted, casting doubt on our #2 ranking. "The most powerful pastor in the world is Pastor Amos Dodge, the man who does Easter at the Lincoln Memorial!" (She says this in a tone as if the whole world knows Pastor Amos is the greatest pastor).

Slah follows up and with great tenderness, and as encouragingly as he can, says, "Mama, maybe if you guys just work harder you could be number 1." Thanks, son.

All these responses made me laugh even more. It just became funnier and funnier. A great laugh all around.

But our #2 ranking also made me think. Made me think about the truths of God that I often forget. Like the last will be first; the first will be last. What the world doesn't see, God sees. God doesn't look at the things man looks at, but at the heart. All believers today are greater than John the Baptist, who was greater than all the prophets of old (including Elijah). You know, truths like that.

Then that got me wondering-what if we are some of the most powerful pastors in the world in God's eyes? What God thinks of me is what really matters.

So besides giving me lots of big laughs, this article greatly encouraged me. It tuned me into God's heart for me, reminding me that God is far more delighted in me than I think, that He sees me as much greater than I see myself, and that we're on track in fulfilling the purposes He has for us.

And God is so good in His timing — even though this article was published in March, we didn't learn about it until now. It came at the right time — at a time when we need encouragement to keep persevering, to keep running the race. Like when Dan ran alongside me in the Boston marathon around mile 20 handling me granola and water to give me the boost and energy I needed to finish.

We've still got a long way to go, and these encouragements really strengthen us to go the distance and to finish well.

Thanks, blogger, Mom, mentors, kids, and friends. And big-time thanks to You, Jesus.

With gratitude,  
"The 2nd Most Powerful Pastor in the World"

Share this:

- [Facebook](#)
- [Twitter](#)
- [LinkedIn](#)
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### I Don't Deserve to Suffer Like This

23 Wednesday May 2012

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [spiritual truths](#)

» [1 Comment](#)

*Profound insights on suffering from my husband and friend, Pastor Niki Tshibaka:*

In Philippians 1:29, Paul writes that "it has been granted to you on behalf of Christ that I often forget. Like the last will be first; the first will be last. What the world doesn't see, God sees. God doesn't look at the things man looks at, but at the heart. All believers today are greater than John the Baptist, who was greater than all the prophets of old (including Elijah). You know, truths like that.

Often, when I experience suffering for Jesus, I think to myself: "I don't deserve this!" And I'm more right than I care to admit! I DON'T deserve to suffer as Jesus did any more than I deserve the honor, the gift, the glory of suffering for His suffering.

Onward He received for His suffering. I don't deserve to suffer for serving Jesus — not because I'm without sin and haven't done anything wrong, but precisely because I am RIDDEN with sin. Who are we that we should be given the honor, the gift, the glory of suffering for Jesus and with Jesus so that we might also share in His reward?

If you're going through a real struggle right now in your church or in your ministry, then I just want to encourage you with the thought that perhaps the suffering you're enduring isn't because you're a "failure" or a "sinner" or a "bad pastor," but rather because you've found favor with the Lord and His grace is upon you. He has deemed you worthy to suffer for His Name, despite your weaknesses and brokenness. You've been deemed worthy of the suffering because you've been deemed worthy of the reward!! Stand fast, friends, and rejoice! You've been "counted worthy of suffering disgrace for the Name!" (Acts 5:41).

Share this:

- [Facebook](#)
- [Twitter](#)
- [LinkedIn](#)
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### Top 10 Reasons Slah Loves Me

21 Monday May 2012

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [kid stories](#)

» [Leave a Comment](#)

(Sent home from Kindergarten for Mother's Day)

1. I love my mom because she reads me books
2. I love my mom because she helps me read
3. I love my mom when she makes me laugh by doing her "queen" dance
4. I love my mom because she taught me how to do my fun book
5. I love to hear my mom sing songs
6. I love my mom because she finds time to play with me
7. I know my mom cares because she kisses me
8. I know my mom is smart because she taught me how to do the fun book
9. I love my mom because she works so hard at work
10. I love my mom because she's the best mom ever!

Share this:

- [Facebook](#)
- [Twitter](#)
- [LinkedIn](#)
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### Slah's Mother's Day Song

18 Friday May 2012

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [kid stories](#), [raising kids](#), [women's topics](#)

» [Leave a Comment](#)

For Mother's Day, Slah sang me a song he "wrote" (made up on the spot). With great big tears in his eyes and choicing back sobs, he cuddled in my arms, held me tightly, and sang about how much he loved me. Here are some of my favorite lyrics:

"I just wanted you to know I'll always love you, Mama"  
"Thank you for all the chances you give me"  
"I'll always be in your heart, Mama, and you'll always be in mine"  
"I'll never leave you"  
"Thank you for taking such good care of me"  
"I looooooove yoooooooooooo!"

Probably the most meaningful gift he ever could have given me. And definitely the most heartfelt, beautiful song I've ever heard. Thanks, Slah.

Share this:

- [Facebook](#)
- [Twitter](#)
- [LinkedIn](#)
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### You Really CAN Make Your Own Granola

16 Wednesday May 2012

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [balancing it all](#), [funny](#), [raising kids](#), [women's topics](#)

» [Leave a Comment](#)

Heidi told me her family used to make granola when she was a kid. Really? I didn't know you could make granola. She laughed. "Where did you think it came from?"

I thought for a moment. "The store."

That's how "granola" I am. And how out of touch with all things domestic I can be...

So Michele sent me a recipe for making your own granola. It actually looks really good, and I think I'm going to try it. Right after I make some paper airplanes with Slah and throw some pitches with Button and clean up after JoElah for the umpteenth time today...

[Cotton Bottom Mama's Super Easy Granola Recipe](#)

Share this:

- [Facebook](#)
- [Twitter](#)
- [LinkedIn](#)
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### Button's Mother's Day Gift

15 Tuesday May 2012

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [kid stories](#)

» [Leave a Comment](#)

Our dear friend and pastor in our church, Ian Elliott, shared the following profound insights on parenting and spiritual truths inspired by a "zagic" and "so" humorous experience he had with our very own Button. Here's an excerpt, but the whole story is very worthy of reading:

Alas, after the movies were done and the chocolate consumed, it ended up being time for bed — which is when the universe literally started to end...at least according to the oldest! ...Crying ensued, crying that turned into sobbing and wailing. Then she discovered that her blanket was missing — the pink one with flowers. "It's gooooooooone!!! I can't sleep woooooooooooo!!!!!!!" she wailed in between sobs. I came in to say goodnight to her but the sobbing and calamitous wailing continued.

A few minutes later, Mel and I found her blanket downstairs and I took it to her, which saved her universe from ending "the big crunch."

Once Mel and I gathered our wits, it occurred to me that I probably felt a little like how the Lord must feel when we think "our universe is literally ending. Our universe is filled with our wants and needs, the people we love, loudie, or just put up with. We have the things we have set before us, but most of all, each one of us has our very own "blankie." Our "blankie" could be our new job, our new car, our spouse, our kids, our friends, or an activity we enjoy...

Read the rest here:

<http://elliottsadoption.blogspot.com/2012/05/lesson-in-just-blanket.html>

Share this:

- [Facebook](#)
- [Twitter](#)
- [LinkedIn](#)
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### Intergenerational Connections

11 Friday May 2012

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [kid stories](#), [raising kids](#)

» [Leave a Comment](#)

The other day Button was cuddling with me as I held her on the couch. She looked at one of the paintings in our home that my grandfather painted.

"Mama, at first when Great Papa died, I didn't miss him that much. But now I really miss him a lot. I feel lonely and sad inside when I think about him and that he's gone."

I held back my tears. "Me, too, Button. Me, too."

*Jesus, thank you that Button got to meet and know Papa and that she has memories of him.*

Share this:

- [Facebook](#)
- [Twitter](#)
- [LinkedIn](#)
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

— Older posts

Search

### Follow Blog

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 904 other followers

### Recent Posts

- [Bring Blind and Carrying Car Keys](#)
- [More relatives...](#)
- [Another Open Letter to President Obama](#)
- [You Can't Make This Up](#)
- [Button's Take on Birth Control](#)

### Archives

- [October 2013](#)
- [September 2013](#)
- [August 2013](#)
- [June 2013](#)
- [May 2013](#)
- [April 2013](#)
- [March 2013](#)
- [February 2013](#)
- [January 2013](#)
- [December 2012](#)
- [November 2012](#)
- [October 2012](#)
- [September 2012](#)
- [August 2012](#)
- [July 2012](#)
- [June 2012](#)
- [May 2012](#)
- [April 2012](#)
- [March 2012](#)
- [January 2012](#)
- [December 2011](#)
- [November 2011](#)
- [October 2011](#)
- [September 2011](#)
- [August 2011](#)
- [July 2011](#)
- [April 2011](#)
- [March 2011](#)
- [February 2011](#)
- [January 2011](#)
- [December 2010](#)
- [November 2010](#)
- [October 2010](#)
- [September 2010](#)
- [August 2010](#)
- [July 2010](#)
- [June 2010](#)
- [May 2010](#)
- [April 2010](#)
- [March 2010](#)
- [February 2010](#)
- [January 2010](#)
- [December 2009](#)
- [November 2009](#)
- [October 2009](#)
- [September 2009](#)
- [August 2009](#)
- [July 2009](#)
- [June 2009](#)
- [May 2009](#)
- [December 2008](#)
- [November 2008](#)
- [October 2008](#)
- [September 2008](#)
- [August 2008](#)
- [July 2008](#)
- [June 2008](#)
- [May 2008](#)
- [April 2008](#)
- [March 2008](#)
- [February 2008](#)
- [January 2008](#)
- [December 2007](#)
- [November 2007](#)
- [October 2007](#)
- [September 2007](#)
- [August 2007](#)
- [July 2007](#)
- [June 2007](#)
- [May 2007](#)
- [April 2007](#)
- [March 2007](#)
- [February 2007](#)
- [January 2007](#)

### Categories

Select Category

Blog at WordPress.com. The Chateau Theme.

Follow

Follow "Kelly Tshibaka"

Get every new post delivered to your Inbox.</

- [About](#)
- [Resources](#)
- [Speaking](#)

## Kelly Tshibaka

### ~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional

Search

Go



## Monthly Archives: November 2007

### God Talk

30 Friday Nov 2007

Posted by [kushibaka](#) in [His mysterious ways, ministry, my spiritual journey](#)

» [Leave a Comment](#)

God's been talking a lot to me lately. That doesn't always happen. I've gone months before without hearing a thing from God. But maybe my ears were clogged. Or maybe He wasn't speaking at that time (hard for me to believe, but there is Biblical support for such a concept).

But lately, I've been hearing a lot of things — some words are fainter than others, and some I'm not sure are God or me — but they've been confirmed as God.

I've also found that if I don't write down what God says (or what I think He's saying) and then go back and revisit it, then I forget it. I can't even believe that the Lord God Almighty, Maker of Heavens and Earth would utter even a word to me and I would forget it, fail to claim it as mine, or omit to act on it. But it happens all the time. I don't want to forget His words, but I do!

So I don't forget them, here are some of the things I've gotten from God recently:

- Go pray with Bobby today, even though you're very troubled about other things in your life.
- Invite your co-worker to study the Bible with you at work. *(She said yes and is really excited about the idea!)*
- Invite others to join you too after you get the Bible study started.
- Ask your co-worker about her faith journey. *Just listen. (How I had no idea what she'd been through! I was really nervous about doing this – I didn't know how she'd respond or whether she'd be suspicious of my motive for asking. But she talked for an hour!)*
- I'm answering your prayers, ask for outstanding things!
- It's never the wrong time to adopt an orphan.
- It's not about you; it's about me. If you do my will and teach my truth, people will think you're crazy. Are you willing to be "crazy" for me? Are you more concerned about what people think about you or about serving me well?
- Fast this morning, and pray.
- Pray daily for our intelligence community and the safety of the nation.
- I want you to be a good servant. I have chosen you and have not rejected you. So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### A Little Me Time

29 Thursday Nov 2007

Posted by [kushibaka](#) in [balancing it all, personal, women's topics](#)

» [Leave a Comment](#)

A woman to our relationship sent me this note:

*Don't forget to take time for yourself! You think of others alllllll the time... Don't forget to take a deep breath every now and then and focus just on yourself! ... You won't be as effective as God wants you to be if you don't sometimes take care of yourself! ... Also, I feel like things are going to get so much busier for you and Niki, and you know that, so, since you have received confirmation about that from God. So I feel like it's sort of like resting for the work that is ahead of you — like you have to make sure you are ready for whatever it is that is coming. I just feel like God is telling me, as your friend, to tell you to make sure to rest because you have a whole lot of work ahead of you.*

At the time, I wasn't feeling particularly unrested or tapped out. But I needed those words, and I spent the next week figuring out how I like to rest. What a mental challenge! After some serious effort following Button's birth, it was able to identify what is I like to do. But liking doing something is really different than resting. They aren't the same.

I paid really close attention that week to situations and activities that I found restful and those that quickly ate up anything in my "relax" bank. Here's what works for me:

- Easy listening or instrumental music (love that worship!)
- Soft lighting and candles. Fluorescents – bleh!!
- Cozy clothes ... and no makeup
- Messages
- Going to bed early
- Being outside. And being outside some more.
- Hot pads (esp. on my neck)
- Quiet activities like reading, journaling, or just being (not TV)
- Minimal points of attention (having multiple things to focus on or distract me heightens my stress)
- Baths
- Strolling through Michaels or Bed, Bath, & Beyond without kids or a shopping list
- Throw away the lists
- Ignore the clock
- Turn off the mixer

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### Why We Cuddle

29 Thursday Nov 2007

Posted by [kushibaka](#) in [kid stories, raising kids](#)

» [Leave a Comment](#)

I love cuddling with my kids. I even compel it — either cuddle or I'm gonna tickle you!! This often launches a high-speed, squealing chase around the living room!

The other night when I was putting Button to bed, I cuddled with her like usual. She loves cuddling too. (Except for when she wants to be tickled...) So while we were laying in her bed hugging, I asked her, "Hey, Button, why do we cuddle?" I was curious what she would say.

She turned her face to mine, looked me straight in the eyes and said very matter-of-factly, "Because you're my friend." And then she "scooped" me on my nose with her little finger and hugged me again. I think that explained it all.

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### From Red Light to Yellow Light

27 Tuesday Nov 2007

Posted by [kushibaka](#) in [adoption, my spiritual journey, personal, stories from a pioneer church](#)

» [Leave a Comment](#)

When we got together, Niki did not have the same desire to adopt as I did. But he understood how important it was to me, and he also came to see it as important too.

So we knew we would adopt one day, but the question was when. I wanted us to adopt after we graduated from law school. But Niki didn't think that was so wise. He instead believed we should have our biological children first and then when they were a little older, we could adopt a child — or maybe two. For the last 6 years, we've been working off that plan.

But on October 20, we had a Steven Curtis Chapman concert and we sensed something spiritually that we hadn't before. We've been to several Steven Curtis Chapman concerts, where he regularly promotes adoption. I always am very moved — I long in my heart for the child I know we will one day adopt. I collect all the literature I can, talk to adoptive parents, and donate money to his adoption organization. Niki thinks I'm cute ... and amusing. He laughs and says, "You can't bring a child home with us tonight!"

So before this concert, he said the same thing: "No adopting any kids tonight, ok? We will one day, but not tonight, ok?" I laughed, "Ok." We were just going to enjoy ourselves.

But God touched us that night. I felt it — a sense of, "Don't wait any more." But I didn't entertain it. I was not going to push an issue that I knew my husband didn't support. If God wanted us to move on this, he'd have to move Niki first.

After the concert when we were driving home, Niki said he sensed God telling him in the concert that we should begin preparing our hearts to adopt. He said he repeatedly dismissed this notion with the thought, "Yes, we will. After we have our own kids first." And every time, the Lord came back with, "When you adopt, that child will be your own. There will be no difference." Niki also said he would not be surprised if he brought home our adopted child around the same time we have our next biological child.

I couldn't believe it! What I sensed, Niki sensed too! God reached us both that night, and we were to begin preparing our hearts...

That night, and in the days that followed Niki was downright gleeful about adopting. He describes it as he once understood mentally that I knew my husband didn't support. If God wanted us to move on this, he'd have to move Niki first.

Me, on the other hand, I got scared. I felt safe — and comfortable — when adoption was 15-20 years off. But now? Whoa, that's a whole different story. It weighed heavily on me. Now? Even though I don't understand as I start taking certain steps — like looking into how to overcome adoption — I was procrastinating. I didn't want to take these steps, because I knew that once I did, I wouldn't stop.

Niki couldn't understand why I was anxious. I tried to explain that it was overwhelming to even think of adopting now — the process, the money needed, the potential issues with an adopted child, the unknowns of it all ... and on top of it, and on top of it, I knew I was living in disobedience by not taking the baby steps I knew the Lord wanted me to take — and that was really eating me up, too. I also told him that based on our prior experience, when the Lord says, "start preparing your hearts," that means the step of faith is imminent — not a couple years off. I suspected we'd be adopting sooner rather than later.

Niki responded, "I don't see what the big deal is. It's not like the light changed from red to green; it just changed from red to yellow." "EXACTLY!" I said. "The light has changed — it's not red any more. That means things are moving, and that's what's freeing me out!"

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### When I Was 4

24 Sunday Nov 2007

Posted by [kushibaka](#) in [adoption, my spiritual journey, personal, stories from a pioneer church](#)

» [Leave a Comment](#)

When I was 4, attended a summer school in which one of our teachers, Mrs. King, was a foster parent for a boy who was about 3 years old. All summer, I watched her hug him, hold his hand, play with him, and love on him like every parent should love a kid. She delighted in him, and he adored her. Near the end of the summer, though, Mrs. King explained that her boy would be leaving their home — she said that she and her husband could keep him if they wanted to (adopt), but they decided they would not. So he would be leaving and we wouldn't see him any more.

A little while later, I remember looking through the window of our classroom and watching Mrs. King explain to her boy that although she loved him, he would not stay with her and needed to move on to his next family. And I even more vividly remember watching that boy's heart break right in front of me — a boy not much younger than me. He sobbed, and begged, and pleaded, and held on to her, and screamed desperately ... And she cried and tried to hold him away from her ... Until another woman took the boy away in a car.

I remembered that day during a recent conversation Niki and I had about adoption. I've always wanted to adopt, but I didn't know where my heart for adoption came from. And that's when I remembered the day I watched that boy's heart break. On that day, I resolved that I would one day adopt.

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### Expecting the Valleys

22 Thursday Nov 2007

Posted by [kushibaka](#) in [my spiritual journey, spiritual truths](#)

» [Leave a Comment](#)

Last week our entire family — and friends who were visiting us — were struck down by a wretched stomach virus that I wouldn't wish on anyone. It took us completely out.

And it caused me to reflect some on the issue of suffering. I realized that deep down — if I'm truly honest with myself — I don't expect to suffer. Instead, I foolishly believe that I've suffered enough up till now, haven't done anything to warrant more suffering, or already am "suffering" in the ways that I'm sacrificing to live for God rather than myself.

WOW — what an eye opener for me. I actually expect that I will live on the mountain tops for the rest of my life. So every time I hit a valley, I'm shocked. It rocks me. I didn't expect it. Even though I know that God never promises a lifetime of mountaintops (that's saved for eternity). Quite the opposite — he guarantees a lifetime of suffering if we're dedicated to Him. So it makes no sense for me to expect a lifetime of mountaintops and no suffering. Instead, I should expect valleys and suffering, and be joyfully surprised by the mountaintops.

After all, if I expect the mountaintops, then I won't be thankful for them. And if I don't expect the valleys, then I won't be able to pass through them to the next mountaintop.

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### The Lord's Encouragement

22 Thursday Nov 2007

Posted by [kushibaka](#) in [ministry, my spiritual journey, stories from a pioneer church](#)

» [Leave a Comment](#)

So after I wrote my last entry — which sort of marked the start of a period of discouragement for me — the Lord responded in such amazing and unmistakable ways that it was impossible to continue to be discouraged.

The night I [noted out that last entry, Niki and I were up until 4am, unable to sleep because of things that were troubling (and discouraging) us. Around 3am, though, Niki turned to me and very earnestly said, "I'm sorry to wake you up if I guess he thought I was sleeping, but I haven't been able to sleep because I think the Holy Spirit wants me to tell you something. Do not be discouraged. What's happening is supposed to happen, and is necessary for God to accomplish His purpose and will. There has to be some pain before there can be growth, and this is the pruning, Hana! He given you a promise? Believe in it, and it will come to pass."

That next morning, some leaders in our church called and said they felt like they needed to come over that day to pray with us and encourage us. They did not know what was going on, nor had they read my blog. But they came over, and they loved our, and we shared with them what was bothering us. And the Holy Spirit was in and gave us this word: "God is pruning right now to make way for what He wants to grow." What a confirmation!

Then, on Sunday, in our worship service, the Lord gave this affirmation to our fellowship twice — which hit me in a way that only the Spirit can:

*So do not fear, for I am with you;  
do not be dismayed (or discouraged), for I am your God.  
I will strengthen you and help you;  
I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.  
  
Isaiah 41:10*

Come Sunday afternoon, all the anxiety and discouragement I had been in the pit of on Friday night was gone.

What an awesome God we serve.

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### Doing God's Work is Hard

16 Friday Nov 2007

Posted by [kushibaka](#) in [ministry, personal, stories from a pioneer church](#)

» [Leave a Comment](#)

This church pioneering stuff is hard. I don't know what I'm doing. Or how to do it. It seems like as soon as everything starts getting settled — or heading in the same direction — something changes, or some big course correction needs to happen. I can try to get in from of it, but there's very little that I can in fact do. In reality, this is the Lord's thing. And the only reason we're doing what we're doing is because we're passionate about Him and know He asked us to do this.

It can be discouraging, though.

I think what I need to know more — and over and over — is that what we're doing is pleasing God. That we are His "good and faithful servants." It's hard to fight against the temptation to want to be successful by people's standards; but what I'm truly most concerned about is whether we're successful by God's standards. If we're making mistakes — or not doing things the way He wants us to — I just want to know so we can course correct. I hate making mistakes.

I have so many questions and so little answers. I anticipate a lot of important things to our faith. First, we agreed, or we will transfer "baby" embryos. In other words, fertilize three embryos are transferred; and three embryos remain. I will be having triplets...? This is a very non-traditional way of doing things as the clinic likes to try to fertilize all of the eggs they harvest, but I feel very strongly that if life begins, that life should be in God's hands. We are only going to try this once (perhaps twice), and then we will move on to adoption. What are your thoughts on IVF?

IVF is the (scientifically speaking) medical advancement in reproductive health. In this procedure, a fertilizable ovum is removed from a woman's ovary, fertilized with sperm, and then inserted into the woman's womb. [This picture shows a fetus developing in a surrogate hand]

IVF is not creating life, it violates scripture. No more so than countless other medical advancements do (including c-sections, induced labors, and epidurals).

When IVF gets messy is when embryos are fertilized that are either 1) frozen, 2) terminated ("selectively reduced"), or 3) used for research (utero-labular). In each of these cases, IVF was used as a way to create life, but also as a means to destroy it. The life that God created is not revered as such.

All reproductive acts — whether its conceiving naturally, using fertility treatments, or abstaining — carry with them a significant burden of responsibility. The way IVF is currently performed often encourages people to be cavalier about their incumbent responsibilities. If you think of sin as anything that displeases God, then I'm pretty sure that being cavalier about people's lives is on the list.

That said, it sounds to me like the way you are approaching this is right on — you are using IVF responsibly by only fertilizing a limited number of eggs, transferring all of them, and avoiding the possibility of frozen or terminated embryos. I'm praying for triplets!!

Here are some other thoughts related to this topic:

- God gives us children and He keeps us from being able to have them. (Gen. 30:2). Children conceived through IVF are as much given from God as those who are conceived naturally. We cannot create life without God; and He can keep people from having kids by not allowing IVF to work. IVF doesn't let God's hands.
- I wish more people considered adoption. Like you are doing. Whether or not they have difficulties conceiving, adoption is as rewarding — if not more so — than having biological children.
- After all, adoption is the visible gospel.

The IVF decision has profound spiritual nexuses — this must be a decision made after significant prayer, as you have done. God has given us the power and purposes for each of us, and we have different levels of faith — for example, IVF may be okay for one person, but a violation of conscience for another. In that case, I would advise the person not pursue IVF (Rom. 14).

And my thoughts on counter-arguments:

- Infertility can be caused by a number of ungody decisions for which a woman might be responsible.
- I praise the Almighty God who can bring about life from being able to have them. (Gen. 30:2). Children conceived through IVF are as much given from God as those who are conceived naturally. We cannot create life without God; and He can keep people from having kids by not allowing IVF to work. IVF doesn't let God's hands.
- A doctor treats disease; he should not do what is over and above the goal of health. He is allowed to treat a woman for a condition causing infertility, but not to "manufacture" her child.
- I don't see anything in the Bible about doctors being limited to treating disease. And, again, I don't think the doctors are "manufacturing" anything. They're fertilizing — like a c-section, an epidural, and epistiotomy, etc. The life cannot be created unless God allows it. But once created, it must be handled with grave responsibility.
- In IVF, imperfect sperm are not screened out as they are in natural conception.

Yes, that's a risk. You may have a child with health problems or a failure-to-thrive embryo. And those embryos are as valuable in God's eyes as a perfectly healthy one. But, imperfect sperm are not always screened out in natural conception either.

- Imperfect or supernatural fetuses are often killed.
- This is the aspect of IVF that grieves the Lord. But again, you can go through IVF without engaging in this practice. The two acts are separate and distinct.
- More children are born prematurely through IVF, with problems resulting from this and medical problems for a woman can occur in IVF more than in natural pregnancy.

Which might be a good reason for people not to choose IVF; but it is not a scriptural or theological reason.

- IVF defiles the two-in-one flesh unity of parents by defying the importance of the flesh as a vehicle of love in the formation of new life.

Perhaps, if looked at in its aggregate effect on society. But this is not true for each couple. I suspect many couples who are assisted by IVF still value the unity of their bodies and their love while undergoing IVF, pregnancy, and parenthood. It seems this is more a policy argument than a personal-decision argument. If someone believed strongly in this argument, though, then I would encourage that person from refraining from IVF so as to avoid violating his/her conscience.

Let me know if you want to discuss further — I'd be more than happy to! I am so happy for you, and I pray that this process goes really well!

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### Thoughts on IVF

02 Friday Nov 2007

Posted by [kushibaka](#) in [spiritual truths, women's topics](#)

» [Leave a Comment](#)

Kelly,  
I am curious what you think of IVF. We have considered adoption, and will probably still adopt, but we feel very strongly that we want to go this route first. We have discussed and agreed on some things up till now, haven't done anything to warrant more suffering, or already am "suffering" in the ways that I'm sacrificing to live for God rather than myself.  
I wish more people considered adoption. Like you are doing. Whether or not they have difficulties conceiving, adoption is as rewarding — if not more so — than having biological children.  
After all, adoption is the visible gospel.  
The IVF decision has profound spiritual nexuses — this must be a decision made after significant prayer, as you have done. God has given us the power and purposes for each of us, and we have different levels of faith — for example, IVF may be okay for one person, but a violation of conscience for another. In that case, I would advise the person not pursue IVF (Rom. 14).

And my thoughts on counter-arguments:

- Infertility can be caused by a number of ungody decisions for which a woman might be responsible.
- I praise the Almighty God who can bring about life from being able to have them. (Gen. 30:2). Children conceived through IVF are as much given from God as those who are conceived naturally. We cannot create life without God; and He can keep people from having kids by not allowing IVF to work. IVF doesn't let God's hands.
- A doctor treats disease; he should not do what is over and above the goal of health. He is allowed to treat a woman for a condition causing infertility, but not to "manufacture" her child.
- I don't see anything in the Bible about doctors being limited to treating disease. And, again, I don't think the doctors are "manufacturing" anything. They're fertilizing — like a c-section, an epidural, and epistiotomy, etc. The life cannot be created unless God allows it. But once created, it must be handled with grave responsibility.
- In IVF, imperfect sperm are not screened out as they are in natural conception.

Yes, that's a risk. You may have a child with health problems or a failure-to-thrive embryo. And those embryos are as valuable in God's eyes as a perfectly healthy one. But, imperfect sperm are not always screened out in natural conception either.

- Imperfect or supernatural fetuses are often killed.
- This is the aspect of IVF that grieves the Lord. But again, you can go through IVF without engaging in this practice. The two acts are separate and distinct.
- More children are born prematurely through IVF, with problems resulting from this and medical problems for a woman can occur in IVF more than in natural pregnancy.

Which might be a good reason for people not to choose IVF; but it is not a scriptural or theological reason.

- IVF defiles the two-in-one flesh unity of parents by defying the importance of the flesh as a vehicle of love in the formation of new life.

Perhaps, if looked at in its aggregate effect on society. But this is not true for each couple. I suspect many couples who are assisted by IVF still value the unity of their bodies and their love while undergoing IVF, pregnancy, and parenthood. It seems this is more a policy argument than a personal-decision argument. If someone believed strongly in this argument, though, then I would encourage that person from refraining from IVF so as to avoid violating his/her conscience.

Let me know if you want to discuss further — I'd be more than happy to! I am so happy for you, and I pray that this process goes really well!

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### Follow Blog

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 904 other followers

Follow

### Recent Posts

- [Being Blind and Carrying Car Keys](#)
- [More redaction...](#)
- [Another Open Letter to President Obama](#)
- [You Can't Make This Up](#)
- [Button's Take on Birth Control](#)

### Archives

October 2013

September 2013

August 2013

June 2013

May 2013

April 2013

March 2013

February 2013

January 2013

December 2012

November 2012

October 2012

September 2012

August 2012

July 2012

June 2012

May 2012

April 2012

March 2012

February 2012

January 2012

December 2011

November 2011

October 2011

September 2011

August 2011

July 2011

June 2011

May 2011

April 2011

March 2011

February 2011

January 2011

December 2010

November 2010

October 2010

September 2010

August 2010

July 2010

June 2010

May 2010

April 2010

March 2010

February 2010

January 2010

December 2009

November 2009

October 2009

September 2009

August 2009

July 2009

June 2009

May 2009

April 2009

March 2009

February 2009

January 2009

December 2008

November 2008

October 2008

September 2008

August 2008

July 2008

June 2008

May 2008

April 2008

March 2008

February 2008

January 2008

December 2007

November 2007

October 2007

September 2007

August 2007

July 2007

June 2007

May 2007

April 2007

March 2007

February 2007

January 2007

### Categories

Select Category

▼

Blog at WordPress.com. [The Chateau Theme](#).

Follow

### Follow "Kelly Tshibaka"

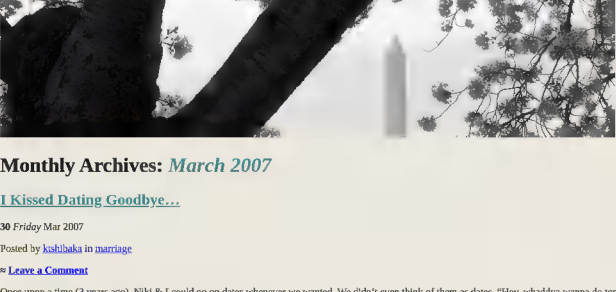
Get every new post delivered to your inbox.



- [About](#)
- [Resources](#)
- [Speaking](#)

## Kelly Tshibaka

### ~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional



## Monthly Archives: March 2007

### I Kissed Dating Goodbye...

30 Friday Mar 2007

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [marriage](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

Once upon a time (3 years ago), Niki & I could go on dates whenever we wanted. We didn't even think of them as dates. "Hey, whaddya wanna do tonight? Wanna go see a movie? Go out to eat? Go for a walk?" And we'd talk, laugh, and just be together.

Then Button came along. And, as occurs with the introduction of all little ones, our lives transitioned. It wasn't that hard after the first couple months — we are at home more, saved on entertainment expenses, and watched a lot of movies in the comfort of our home where we could pause, eat whatever we wanted, and fast forward through the bad parts.

Without even recognizing it, though, our time together slowly faded away. I kissed dating goodbye, and didn't even know it. Yes, we still spent lots of time as a family — but it generally revolved around the kids and talking about the pressing matters of the moment; it seldom involved our thoughts, dreams, or ideas, and even less frequently involved the googly-eyes of newlyweds and the laughter we once shared routinely.

We noticed this a couple months ago, and made a commitment to go out on dates every other Friday. But recently we noticed that something would come up here and there, and we were really only hitting a date night about once a month.

Drastic circumstances called for drastic measures. We've now committed to going on a date together once a week. We still have our every other Fridays in place, but we now have added a babysitting co-op, through our fellowship, so all the parents can enjoy a free date night. As for us, we'll spring for a babysitter on that 4th weekend a month.

Our marriage is a priority for us. It's also one of our priorities for the people in our fellowship. \$60 for a night of fun & intimacy a couple times a month is nothing compared to the price people pay in broken hearts, misery, and (often) divorce. Besides, it's fun!

Share this:

- [Facebook](#)
- [Twitter](#)
- [LinkedIn](#)
- [Pinterest](#)
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### Dirty Diaper

30 Friday Mar 2007

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [kid stories](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

Button got up from bed one night and went to the potty. While on the potty, she called for me to come help her. "Where's your diaper?" I asked, when she was finished. "It was dirty. I washed it in the BAATH and put't in the twash." ☺

Share this:

- [Facebook](#)
- [Twitter](#)
- [LinkedIn](#)
- [Pinterest](#)
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### Divine Healing

29 Thursday Mar 2007

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [spiritual truths](#)

≈ [1 Comment](#)

Lately, several friends of mine have needed healing for spiritual or physical reasons. For many of these friends, the healing process has been slow and challenging. Not what they expected. Or what I expected. One dear friend has been put through an emotional and spiritual marathon just to keep faith. Her condition has kept her largely bed-ridden for the past 4 months.

These friends' journeys have brought us face-to-face with some tough questions about divine healing. Does God heal? Why aren't some people healed? Is God's will for people to be sick and to suffer? If God loves us, why doesn't He always heal us immediately in response to faithful prayer? Here are some of my thoughts — and revelations — about some of these questions.

#### Does God Heal Today?

The Lord still heals the sick and afflicted in response to believing prayer. Just as Jesus healed during His ministry on earth, the Lord still heals us today. He is the same yesterday, today, and forever. All spiritual gifts available to the apostles and first disciples are available to believers today through the Holy Spirit, including the miracles gifts like healing.

#### Does God Want Us to Suffer?

Sickness, disability, spiritual struggles, and death are the result of sin and the fall of humankind in Adam & Eve. It is not — and never has been — God's will for us to be sick, to struggle or suffer, and to die in Jesus's crucifixion. He took our infirmities and bore our sicknesses. By His stripes we are healed.

#### Why Does God Heal?

The Bible gives us several reasons for why God provides us physical healing:

- To bring glory to God (Matt. 9:8, 15:31)
- To remind us that He is all powerful (John 11:4-45)
- To reveal His compassionate character (Matt. 20:24)
- To free us to be whole so we can better minister and serve (1 Cor. 6:9-20)
- To build faith in the recipient and observer (Mark 5:35-43)
- To reveal the workings of God (John 9:3)
- To fulfill the promises of God in the Bible (Matt. 8:16-17)

#### Why Are Some People Not Healed When Prayer is Offered?

When people aren't healed, we, in our limited human understanding, tend to gravitate towards one of two conclusions: the person was not healed due to a lack of faith (either by the recipient or the one praying) or it was not God's will for the person to be healed.

First, God does not want us to suffer; that's not His purpose or intent. With that established, here are some reasons why someone wasn't or did not appear to be healed:

– The afflicted person is not a believer. While the Lord sometimes heals those who don't believe in the power and lordship of Jesus, there is no scriptural promise of healing for those who don't believe. (Matt. 5:45)

– Healing is sought for the wrong purposes — like selfishness or worldly pursuits.

– The focus is on a human minister (the one praying) rather than the Lord.

– Disobedience, unbelief, or unconfessed sin. *Unconfessed* sin is a huge one — the Bible exhorts us to confess our sins to the Lord *on*to one another. If, while receiving healing prayer, praying for healing, or waiting for healing, the Lord brings a sin to your heart, confess it to Him and to a pastor or Christian friend.

– Delayed healing. This is the situation I believe most my friends are in. By presupposing that God is in control and that healing is in the atonement (Jesus's death), then we can recognize that pain and suffering may be tools used for the growth and development of the believer. They take the believer to a place where she needs to stand in faith until the answer comes.

Our limited understanding can mislead us to believe that if God loves us, we will have pain-free lives. But instant gratification and immediate healing do not always demonstrate the height of God's love for us. The Bible is replete with examples of strong believers suffering indefinitely (like Paul with the "thorn in his side"). Peter reminds us that these trials come so that our faith, which persists even though refined by fire, may be proved genuine and may result in glory and honor to the Lord. (1 Pet. 5:1-7)

God always heals in answer to believing, repentant prayer. But His timing and will may differ from our personal preferences.

#### Why Do People Die?

There is no scriptural promise for everlasting physical life on earth. Death has lost its sting through salvation in Jesus, but our earthly bodies still perish because of our original sin (Adam & Eve). Jesus has given us eternal life — those who accept this gift of life will live forever with Him and will receive resurrected bodies as He did. One reason God gives for limiting our time on earth is to limit the amount of time we can sin and be separated from God. While hard to believe, God lets us the out of mercy for us — in death, the believer becomes whole and complete, never to suffer sickness, affliction, or pain again.

Share this:

- [Facebook](#)
- [Twitter](#)
- [LinkedIn](#)
- [Pinterest](#)
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### Grimy Little Handprint

28 Wednesday Mar 2007

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [raising kids](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

Before Button was born, I prayed and longed for her. I imagined her sticky little handprints all over our sliding glass door, and it brought such joy to my heart. "I'll never clean them off," I thought.

When Button was about 11 months old, she planted her little hand on the wall of our bathroom, leaving a grimy little handprint. I recognized at the time that this was exactly what I had imagined. In honor of what I once longed for — and how this handprint symbolized the answer to a prayer — I didn't clean off the handprint.

I noticed it again this morning. Where it once matched Button's hand perfectly, it's now about half the size of her hand now. It brought such joy to my heart; I'll never clean it off.

Share this:

- [Facebook](#)
- [Twitter](#)
- [LinkedIn](#)
- [Pinterest](#)
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### [Gasp!]

27 Tuesday Mar 2007

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [general](#)

≈ [1 Comment](#)

Hello, all you blog fans! Been awhile since I posted. I'm coming up for air here. Life has been so hectic lately — especially at work. No downtime anywhere. BUT, several of you have told me that you look forward to reading my postings — it's been encouraging to hear. And it makes me want to post more. So I'm renewing my commitment to blog more frequently. Not just for those who enjoy reading it, but also for me — journaling is one of my favorite things to do.

Share this:

- [Facebook](#)
- [Twitter](#)
- [LinkedIn](#)
- [Pinterest](#)
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### Ev'wybody doesn't love Button

22 Thursday Mar 2007

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [kid stories](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

I was cuddling with Button right before bedtime and she started saying things that really bothered me.

"Everybody loves Button," I'd say. "NO, Mommy. NOT ev'wybody loves Button," she'd respond.

"Well, I love you. And Daddy does too." "Nuh-uh, Mommy. Daddy and Mommy don't love Button."

"Jesus loves you, Button. He loves you very much." "No, Mommy. Jesus doesn't love Button."

When Niki came upstairs to say goodnight to her, I told her what she said. He went in to reaffirm to her how much we love her. Then she said to him, "No, daddy. Not ev'wybody loves Button. [pause] Ev'wybody loves Little Brudder (our baby boy)."

Aha! That's what's going on.

We responded by loving on her exuberantly — doggled her on her bed, covered her with kisses, and tickled her, all the while telling her we love her, she is our favorite little girl in the whole world, and of all the little girls we love her the most.

And daddy stayed an extra long time just to hold her in his arms.

Share this:

- [Facebook](#)
- [Twitter](#)
- [LinkedIn](#)
- [Pinterest](#)
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### Delishes

22 Thursday Mar 2007

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [kid stories](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

One night as Button and I were getting her ready for bed, she heard Niki downstairs doing the dishes. She turned to me and asked, "Mommy? Is that daddy? [pause] He's doing the *delishes*! (combo of "delicious" and "dishes")"

Share this:

- [Facebook](#)
- [Twitter](#)
- [LinkedIn](#)
- [Pinterest](#)
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### Fahgeddahbowdit

09 Friday Mar 2007

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [kid stories](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

Last night, as Button was recounting the transgressions of "Leesha," I responded to her in my best New York mobster accent, "Hey, Button — forget about it!" She thought it was SO funny. So now, whenever she starts to talk about how she was bit, she catches herself, shouts "FAHGEDDAH BOWDIT", and laughs hysterically.

I like it! — not just for her, but for me also. Lately, when I've been irked at someone, I've caught myself: FAHGEDDAH BOWDIT!

Share this:

- [Facebook](#)
- [Twitter](#)
- [LinkedIn](#)
- [Pinterest](#)
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### A Week Day in the Life of Kelly

07 Wednesday Mar 2007

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [balancing it all](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

So what's it like day-to-day for me? Here is an example, based on an average weekday —

5am – rise & curl hair, and (clap) give God make-up, glory, glory . . .  
5:30 – pray while curl hair, brush teeth, do makeup, get dressed  
6:00 – prepare lunch for me and Niki  
6:15 – Make tea and breakfast to go for me  
6:30 – Handle any pressing bills, paperwork, chores  
6:45 – Eat in car while listening to Bible (45 minute commute)  
7:00 – Work: Meetings, briefings, reading, analyzing, and otherwise facilitating the war on terrorism  
7:15 – Pray in down times (walking, waiting, etc.)  
7:30 – 30 minute workout  
7:45 – Counseling and catching up with friends by phone  
8:00 – Send e-mails to friends near and far  
8:15 – Create programs for church Easter service  
8:30 – Make doctor appointments  
8:45 – Create and send out prayer list to church  
9:00 – Plan and coordinate Easter service  
9:15 – Read, prepare, and train for pastoral licensing  
9:30 – Select and order curriculum for Sunday School  
9:45 – Coach fastpitch pitching (only a couple days/week)  
10:00 – Pick up kids from daycare  
10:15 – Do homework or arts and crafts with Button  
10:30 – Make dinner  
10:45 – Play airplane with both kids  
11:00 – Bathe kids  
11:15 – Grab supplies for kids to take to daycare tomorrow  
11:30 – Get kids ready for bed  
11:45 – Nighttime routine — read kids book, sing songs, pray, and cuddle  
12:00 – Return phone calls  
12:15 – Triage mail  
12:30 – Catch a tv program with Niki  
(and sometimes) Prepare guest bedroom and Spend time with dinner/overnight guests  
12:45 – Talk with Niki  
1:00 – Pray  
9:30pm – bedtime

Share this:

- [Facebook](#)
- [Twitter](#)
- [LinkedIn](#)
- [Pinterest](#)
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

– Older posts

Search:

### Follow Blog

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 904 other followers

### Recent Posts

- [Being Blind and Carrying Car Keys](#)
- [More relations...](#)
- [Another Open Letter to President Obama](#)
- [You Can't Make This Up](#)
- [Button's Take on Birth Control](#)

### Archives

- October 2013
- September 2013
- August 2013
- May 2013
- April 2013
- March 2013
- February 2013
- January 2013
- December 2012
- November 2012
- October 2012
- September 2012
- August 2012
- July 2012
- June 2012
- May 2012
- April 2012
- March 2012
- January 2012
- December 2011
- November 2011
- October 2011
- September 2011
- August 2011
- July 2011
- June 2011
- May 2011
- April 2011
- March 2011
- February 2011
- January 2011
- December 2010
- November 2010
- October 2010
- September 2010
- August 2010
- July 2010
- June 2010
- May 2010
- April 2010
- March 2010
- February 2010
- January 2010
- December 2009
- November 2009
- October 2009
- September 2009
- August 2009
- July 2009
- June 2009
- May 2009
- March 2009
- February 2009
- January 2009
- December 2008
- November 2008
- October 2008
- September 2008
- August 2008
- July 2008
- June 2008
- May 2008
- April 2008
- March 2008
- February 2008
- January 2008
- December 2007
- November 2007
- October 2007
- September 2007
- August 2007
- July 2007
- June 2007
- May 2007
- April 2007
- March 2007
- February 2007
- January 2007

### Categories

Blog at WordPress.com: The Chateau Theme

Follow

Follow "Kelly Tshibaka"

Get every new post delivered to your Inbox.

Join 904 other followers

Powered by [WordPress.com](#)

960 bloggers like this:



- [About](#)
- [Resources](#)
- [Speaking](#)

## Kelly Tshibaka

### ~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional

Search:



## Monthly Archives: May 2009

### [Button's First Sermon](#)

25 Monday May 2009

Posted by [kushibaka](#) in [kid stories, raising kids, stories from a pioneer church](#)

≈ [1 Comment](#)

Button has a penchant for preaching. In addition to being a “helper,” she also has talked about wanting to be a pastor when she grows up. But I believe kids can do now so many spiritual things that people usually don’t experience until later. Unlike physical maturity, spiritual maturity is not age-bound. Think of Jesus when he was 12 sitting in the Temple and teaching the religious leaders.

So here is her first sermon, delivered to 10 other kids ages newborn-12, with some assistance from yours truly:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NcisqNj5Y5w>

#### Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

#### Like this:

Like Loading...

### [Adoption Update](#)

15 Friday May 2009

Posted by [kushibaka](#) in [adoption](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

We’re officially waiting. Probably will have to do some of our paperwork over. It looks like it’s taking about 8 months for families to be matched with a child. So we’re looking at August/September to be matched, and then traveling sometime between November and February!

#### Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

#### Like this:

Like Loading...

### [Who You’re Going to See in Heaven](#)

15 Friday May 2009

Posted by [kushibaka](#) in [kid stories, raising kids](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

After I read (and dramatized) the story of David and Goliath for the kids, I asked Sister who she’s going to see in Heaven.

“God”  
“And who else?”  
“Jesus.”  
“And who else?”  
“Bobby!”  
“Anyone else?”  
“And David, and Noah, and Paul, and Peter, and Thomas, and Moses, and Miriam, and Esther, and Job, and Psalms, Proverbs, and the Song of Solomon!”  
She was so excited, and I was so amused! “Burton, you are so funny!”

#### Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

#### Like this:

Like Loading...

### [Ice Cream Truck](#)

15 Friday May 2009

Posted by [kushibaka](#) in [kid stories](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

The kids and I were outside riding bikes and playing in the driveway. Way down the road, they heard the faint sound of an ice cream truck. Sister got an idea: “Mama! An ice cream truck! Let’s go see if we can catch it!” She took off riding as fast as she could down the sidewalk. And Brother followed.

One thing about Brother, though – he was on a tricycle that wasn’t moving quickly. His helmet wasn’t fitting right, so it was bobbling about on his head. His shoes were on backwards. And his pants were drooping around his waist. Fed up with the tricycle, he asked if he could run to the ice cream truck. “Sure, sweetie.”  
What followed was one of the most endearing scenes ever – Brother high tailing it after Sister, waddling to keep his pants up, with both hands on his helmet to keep it on his head, crying out, “Wait for me, ice cwear twuck!!!”

#### Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

#### Like this:

Like Loading...

Search:

### Follow Blog

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 904 other followers

### Recent Posts

- [Being Blind and Carrying Car Keys](#)
- [More relationship...](#)
- [Another Open Letter to President Obama](#)
- [You Can't Make This Up](#)
- [Button's Take on Birth Control](#)

### Archives

- [October 2013](#)
- [September 2013](#)
- [August 2013](#)
- [June 2013](#)
- [May 2013](#)
- [April 2013](#)
- [March 2013](#)
- [February 2013](#)
- [January 2013](#)
- [December 2012](#)
- [November 2012](#)
- [October 2012](#)
- [September 2012](#)
- [August 2012](#)
- [July 2012](#)
- [June 2012](#)
- [May 2012](#)
- [April 2012](#)
- [March 2012](#)
- [January 2012](#)
- [December 2011](#)
- [November 2011](#)
- [October 2011](#)
- [September 2011](#)
- [August 2011](#)
- [July 2011](#)
- [April 2011](#)
- [March 2011](#)
- [February 2011](#)
- [January 2011](#)
- [December 2010](#)
- [November 2010](#)
- [October 2010](#)
- [September 2010](#)
- [August 2010](#)
- [July 2010](#)
- [June 2010](#)
- [May 2010](#)
- [April 2010](#)
- [March 2010](#)
- [February 2010](#)
- [January 2010](#)
- [December 2009](#)
- [November 2009](#)
- [October 2009](#)
- [September 2009](#)
- [August 2009](#)
- [July 2009](#)
- [June 2009](#)
- [May 2009](#)
- [March 2009](#)
- [February 2009](#)
- [January 2009](#)
- [December 2008](#)
- [November 2008](#)
- [October 2008](#)
- [September 2008](#)
- [August 2008](#)
- [July 2008](#)
- [June 2008](#)
- [May 2008](#)
- [April 2008](#)
- [March 2008](#)
- [February 2008](#)
- [January 2008](#)
- [December 2007](#)
- [November 2007](#)
- [October 2007](#)
- [September 2007](#)
- [August 2007](#)
- [July 2007](#)
- [June 2007](#)
- [May 2007](#)
- [April 2007](#)
- [March 2007](#)
- [February 2007](#)
- [January 2007](#)

### Categories

Select Category

[Blog at WordPress.com](#). [The Chateau Theme](#).

[Follow](#)

### Follow “Kelly Tshibaka”

Get every new post delivered to your Inbox.

Join 904 other followers

Powered by [WordPress.com](#)  
%d bloggers like this:

- [About](#)
- [Resources](#)
- [Speaking](#)

## Kelly Tshibaka

### ~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional

Search:



## Monthly Archives: *April 2008*

### [Focusing on God's Love](#)

25 *Friday* Apr 2008

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [deep thoughts, my spiritual journey](#)

≡ [Leave a Comment](#)

I'm currently focusing on God's love for me. And something I realized is that the little saying I've been using with the kids reflects God's heart for His kids, too. When I say it to the kids, I can also reflect on God saying it to me --

Kelly, I love you.  
Even when you make mistakes  
Even when you're bad  
I love you.  
Even when you make me angry  
Even when you make me sad  
I love you.  
You are so important to me  
And I am very proud of you.  
-God.

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

Like this:

Like Loading...

### [Loving the Kids](#)

24 *Thursday* Apr 2008

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [kid stories, raising kids](#)

≡ [Leave a Comment](#)

The other day I told Button I loved her, but I could tell that she wasn't really receiving it. And that made me think... "Button, are you sure of my love for you?"

She thought about it for a second and then shook her head.

That really surprised me. For all the affection I show my kids, all the times I tell them I love them, the ways I intentionally build them up... is it really possible that they don't know how much I love them?

So right then and there, I came up with this little saying, which I've made a point to say to each kid, individually, every day. It's what I want my kids to know about how I feel for them, and I want it buried into their subconsciousness so that they are sure of my love for them throughout their lives:

I love you.  
Even when you make mistakes,  
Even when you're bad,  
I love you.  
Even if you make me angry,  
Even if you make me sad,  
I love you.  
You are so important to me, and  
I am very proud of you.

The first time I said it to Button, she resisted bearing it. But I made her. And at the end, she looked up at me and softly asked, "Can you say it again, Mama?" So I said it again. For two more times after that, she asked if I could repeat it. And by the end, she had curled up in my lap with her head on my chest.

I had no idea that she needed such strong assurances about my love for her.

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

Like this:

Like Loading...

### [All OVER the Floor](#)

23 *Wednesday* Apr 2008

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [kid stories](#)

≡ [Leave a Comment](#)

After bath time, Cutie Pie climbed butt naked on top of the stool to start brushing his teeth. He was very excited -- only recently has he been able to stand on the stool and "brush" his teeth all by himself. (By "brushing," I mostly mean sucking all the toothpaste off of it.)

And I was excited for him, too. As I was drying off Button (who also just got out of the bath), I was encouraging Cutie Pie, "Look at you! Brushing your teeth all by yourself! What a good boy you are!"

Then I noticed it -- little tinkles coming out of his wee wee. Tinkle here... Tinkle there...

I changed my voice very quickly. "NO, NO, NO. STOP IT! DON'T DO THAT -- DON'T GO PEE PEE! STOP!!!"

Cutie Pie was startled by my sudden change in voice. His face dropped and he said, so forlorned, "So-wee, Mama."

But he KEPT tinkling. Tinkle tinkle!!!

"STOP! STOP GOING PEE PEE! STOP!"

"So-wee, Mama! So-wee, Mama!" [tinkle tinkle] Now the rug and stool were covered in tinikage.

I grabbed a wad of tissue to block the drippage. "STOP!!! STOP!!!"

"SO-WEE, MAMA!!! SO-WEE!!!"

At which point Cutie Pie burst into tears. I felt *terrible*. At this point did I realize he had no control over himself, despite his recent fascination with sitting on the potty. He was clinging to me and just crying. Poor little boy!

And he was still tinkling. [Yes, that's not the first time I've been covered in tiniklage.]

To redeem the situation and build him back up, I sat him on the potty. He was still sobbing, but every time he *just happened* to tinkle in the potty, I would praise him profusely. "WOW!!! Look at you, Cutie Pie! You're really doing it! You're going pee pee in the potty like a big boy! WOW!!!"

In short time, he was no longer crying, but looking down to see what all the acclaim was about. Then he stopped tinkling (finally!) and I asked him if he wanted to get down. With his typical Cutie Pie full-body-nod, I took him off the potty. He raced butt naked to his bedroom to get his pj's on.

And I cleaned up a very wet bathroom...

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

Like this:

Like Loading...

### [Sick Day](#)

21 *Monday* Apr 2008

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [my spiritual journey, personal](#)

≡ [Leave a Comment](#)

Today I'm taking a much overdue sick day. Probably should have taken it a week ago. Then maybe I wouldn't have had to suffer for 2 weeks with this terrible cold/flu thing.

I suspect some of this is that I'm sick, some of it is due to my propensity to run myself into the ground, and some of it is because I'm "carrying a load/yoke/burden I'm not supposed to carry" (a prophetic and accurate word spoken to me this weekend).

So I'm spending today resting (what a concept!) and praying more about the word given to me and some revelation I received on Sunday in our post-service discussion groups. More on that once I wrap my head around it better.

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

Like this:

Like Loading...

### [Cutie Pie](#)

18 *Friday* Apr 2008

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [kid stories](#)

≡ [Leave a Comment](#)

Cutie Pie, Cutie Pie. What a fascinating person he is. His real name means "fire of the Lord," and it's interesting to see how his name describes so well who he is, at 20 months old (today!).

Cutie Pie is very passionate. He believes in things strongly. When he says, "yes," he "crawls" with his whole body -- up, down, up, down from his head to his knees. When he is excited about something, he shrieks with a dimpled-face smile and stomps his feet up and down super fast, like a football drill. And when he laughs -- oh, he puts his whole heart and soul into it. It's the most contagious, bubbly, yet boy-ish laugh I could ever imagine. Sometimes I tickle him just to make ME laugh!

One of the things I delight in him the most is his strong sense of right and wrong, and that he's not afraid to take on anything that threatens "right."

For instance, one day I was mad at me because I didn't give him something he wanted -- I think it was juice instead of milk or vice versa. He literally chased me around the house screeching at me until I took a "time out" and locked myself in the bathroom (I was on the phone this whole time). He stood outside the bathroom pounding on the door double-fisted and continuing to screech...

And, whenever I challenge him ("I'm gonna get you!" or try to chase him around the house), he doesn't run like most kids. But he turns to me, lets out what sounds like a battle cry, drops his head, and charges me like a bull. Then he throws his arms around my knees and with all the force a 20 pound+ boy can muster, tries to take me to the ground. Sometimes he has me laughing so hard that he actually succeeds in toppling me!

His favorite phrases right now are "Not Nice!", "I MEAN IT!", "EnOUGH!", and "I love you" (my favorite!). It's also really important to him to be a big helper. He runs with great purpose (he looks like a focused drunk) to open doors for me, get daddy his shoes, or put things away. And he is quick to declare messes -- especially his sister's.

He loves playing outside. Anything outside. He resents being picked up from daycare when they're playing outside, and if I don't steer him into the house at the end of outside playtime, then he bee lines down the street for the playground (again, running like a focused drunk).

Next to playing outside, I think his favorite thing is me. And I'm okay with that. : D But I have to compete with the guitar, the piano, all things electronic, and the rocking chair where we cuddle and I sing him songs at night (I often find him sitting in the chair alone, rocking back and forth, and singing songs to himself).

Yes, speaking of -- Cutie Pie has an unquenchable passion for all things music. This is definitely something we will encourage and foster in him, even though it's not our gifting or interest. But I suspect music plays a large part in God's purpose for his life.

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

Like this:

Like Loading...

### [Facebook -- grr](#)

16 *Wednesday* Apr 2008

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [deep thoughts](#)

≡ [Leave a Comment](#)

One thing I hate is how addictive Facebook can be...

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

Like this:

Like Loading...

### [Dirty Mouth](#)

14 *Monday* Apr 2008

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [kid stories](#)

≡ [1 Comment](#)

We're having to deal with the issue of cussing -- a kid in daycare has a bit of a dirty mouth, and so Button's coming home and trying the colorful language on us. Some of it is less troubling, like "stupid!" and "shut up." Some of it would impress my dad -- who's a sailor. Regardless, it had to be addressed.

The first time it happened, I explained emphatically that she was never to say these dirty words because they give her a potty mouth, get stuck in her heart, and then make her heart dirty too. She understood.

The second time, I warned her and then took her to the bathroom and washed her mouth out with soap. That went over the way it always does, and was quite effective.

The third time, Button was finding excuses to say a certain word. Specifically, she kept telling me that the other kids were saying the word and in telling the story about ALL the other kids, she got to say the word many times. I told her to stop -- that she could tell me the story without actually saying the word. She insisted SHE was not saying "S@!+," but THEY were saying "S@!+." I warned her again, she said it again, and then I said, "Okay. Go to the bathroom and wash out your mouth with soap. You have a dirty mouth; you need to clean it out."

Douffily, Button walked to the bathroom to carry out my instructions. Two friends who were at our house at the time observed this, and one said, "I have never before seen a kid wash out their own mouth with soap!"

"Neither have I," I responded, waiting to see what would happen.

A minute later, Button came out with a puckered face, marched over and showed me her green tongue, and said, "Mama, it's disgusting! I won't say dirty words again!!!"

That's my daughter!

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

Like this:

Like Loading...

### [SOMEbody's Grouchy](#)

14 *Monday* Apr 2008

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [kid stories](#)

≡ [Leave a Comment](#)

Niki sent Button to time out the other day. She was having fun, but getting out of hand and not listening. So he sent her to time out. Legitimate. Totally legitimate.

No sooner had Button sat on the stairs then she peered at Niki across the room, as if over some imaginary sunglasses, and said boldly, "SOMEbody's grouchy!"

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

Like this:

Like Loading...

### [Have Patience, Have Patience...](#)

12 *Saturday* Apr 2008

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [my spiritual journey, women's topics](#)

≡ [Leave a Comment](#)

Awhile ago, God convicted me about my patience -- or lack thereof. I've really been trying to grow in patience. But to do that, I believe God has increasingly placed my into situations that test my patience so that I can grow. So, needless to say, I've had LOTS of opportunities lately to be patient. Sometimes I succeed and sometimes I fail.

It seems to me, though, that most the time I'm failing. Urg. Dirk. AGH. umph. But, interestingly, 2 separate people mentioned to me recently that they have noticed that I am much more patient with the kids than I used to be. That surprised me, but was really encouraging. If people are noticing such a change in me that they wanted to tell me about it, then I must really be growing in it. Even if I don't recognize it.

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

Like this:

Like Loading...

### [Home Study, Part 3](#)

12 *Saturday* Apr 2008

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [adoption](#)

≡ [Leave a Comment](#)

We combined our second set of joint interviews with our home inspection. The social worker came to our house and talked to us about our relationship history, our thoughts about adoption, and our family culture. Then she interviewed the kids and inspected our house.

For the interview part, she asked questions like:

- What first attracted you to each other?
- How has your marriage changed?
- How would you describe your communication?
- What are the things you like most about each other?
- What is your parenting/disciplining philosophy?
- What strengths do you have that will make you good parents?
- General questions about the hard times in our marriage
  - Why do you want to adopt?
- How will you integrate Ethiopian culture into your own family?
- How receptive are your family, friends, and community to your adoption?
- How diverse is your community?
- What is your family culture?
- What kind of child would fit in best into your family? (for us, a young extrovert)

The questions were really personal, but not too personal (which I was dreading). We were honest -- we didn't have a problem with that. And I didn't feel like the questions went beyond the depth of the essay questions we had to answer. In fact, I think the probative level of the essay questions was far deeper -- if people answered them honestly.

So then the social worker inspected our house. We had the maids come in the day before, just to make sure it was up-to-snuff. And the social worker had given us in advance a checklist of things she would be looking for, like a fire extinguisher, no cleaning supplies or medicines in reach of children, and no cleaning supplies co-stored with food. We had checked through the house two times to make sure we met all the standards on the checklist.

I think we passed this part of the home study (the pinnacle, in a lot of ways). At least I hope so. I mean, it would be pretty bad news for Button and Cutie Pie if we didn't...

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

Like this:

Like Loading...

### [Older posts](#)

Search:

### **Follow Blog**

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 904 other followers

### **Recent Posts**

- [Being Blind and Carrying Car Keys](#)
- [More relationships...](#)
- [Another Open Letter to President Obama](#)
- [You Can't Make This Up](#)
- [Burton's Take on Birth Control](#)

### **Archives**

- [October 2013](#)
- [September 2013](#)
- [August 2013](#)
- [June 2013](#)
- [May 2013](#)
- [April 2013](#)
- [March 2013](#)
- [February 2013](#)
- [January 2013](#)
- [December 2012](#)
- [November 2012](#)
- [October 2012](#)
- [September 2012](#)
- [August 2012](#)
- [July 2012](#)
- [June 2012](#)
- [May 2012](#)
- [April 2012](#)
- [March 2012](#)
- [January 2012](#)
- [December 2011](#)
- [November 2011](#)
- [October 2011](#)
- [September 2011](#)
- [August 2011](#)
- [July 2011](#)
- [April 2011](#)
- [March 2011](#)
- [February 2011](#)
- [January 2011](#)
- [December 2010](#)
- [November 2010](#)
- [October 2010](#)
- [September 2010](#)
- [August 2010](#)
- [July 2010](#)
- [June 2010](#)
- [May 2010](#)
- [April 2010](#)
- [March 2010](#)
- [February 2010](#)
- [January 2010](#)
- [December 2009](#)
- [November 2009](#)
- [October 2009](#)
- [September 2009](#)
- [August 2009](#)
- [July 2009](#)
- [June 2009](#)
- [May 2009](#)
- [March 2009](#)
- [February 2009](#)
- [January 2009](#)
- [December 2008](#)
- [November 2008](#)
- [October 2008](#)
- [September 2008](#)
- [August 2008](#)
- [July 2008](#)
- [June 2008](#)
- [May 2008](#)
- [April 2008](#)
- [March 2008](#)
- [February 2008](#)
- [January 2008](#)
- [December 2007](#)
- [November 2007](#)
- [October 2007](#)
- [September 2007](#)
- [August 2007](#)
- [July 2007](#)
- [June 2007](#)
- [May 2007](#)
- [April 2007](#)
- [March 2007](#)
- [February 2007](#)
- [January 2007](#)

### **Categories**

Select Category

[Blog at WordPress.com - The Chateau Theme.](#)

[Follow](#)

Follow "Kelly Tshibaka"

Get every new post delivered to your Inbox.

Join 904 other followers

Powered by [WordPress.com](#)

960 bloggers like this:

- [About](#)
- [Resources](#)
- [Speaking](#)

## Kelly Tshibaka

### ~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional

Search:



## Monthly Archives: *August 2011*

### [Daddy's Not Old Enough](#)

13 *Saturday* Aug 2011

Posted by [kushibaka](#) in [kid stories](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

Siah just got a new game system--the Nintendo DS! He's almost 5 years old, so we figure he's ready for it. Well, while he was tagging along with Niki to a work lunch, he lost the stylus. It fell between the booth and the wall, and they couldn't get it out! Niki chided him on the way to the car, "Looks like you're not old enough for a DS, Siah!"

As they were exiting the parking garage, Niki realized he'd misplaced his parking ticket. Siah chimed up from the back, with a grin, "Looks like you're not old enough for parking tickets, Daddy!"

#### Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

#### Like this:

Like Loading...

### [Wait for Boaz](#)

05 *Friday* Aug 2011

Posted by [kushibaka](#) in [funny](#), [spiritual truths](#), [women's topics](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

I read this and was amused, and thought it was wise advice, so I'm passing it along:

"For Single Ladies: Quick Bible Lesson...In the Bible, Ruth patiently waited for her mate Boaz. While waiting on YOUR Boaz, Please don't settle for ANY of his relatives: Brokeaz, Lyinaz, Cheatnaz, Dumbaz, Downlowaz, Cheapaz, Lockedupaz, Goodfornothingaz, Lazyaz, or Marriedaz! And Especially his third cousin, Beatingyoaz. PLEASE....wait on your Boaz, and make sure HE respects Yoaz!!!!"

#### Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

#### Like this:

Like Loading...

### [A Nun and a Teacher](#)

04 *Thursday* Aug 2011

Posted by [kushibaka](#) in [kid stories](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

The other day, Button boldly declared, "When I grow up, I want to be a nun and a teacher!"

"A *nun*, not a num, right?"

"No, a num. I don't want to get married. I just want to love and serve Jesus. And that's what nuns do."

"Okay, and what do you want to teach?"

Button reflected for a moment, and then declared, "Discipleship!"

#### Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

#### Like this:

Like Loading...

### [Detours, Messes, and Defeats](#)

03 *Wednesday* Aug 2011

Posted by [kushibaka](#) in [deep thoughts](#), [spiritual truths](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

"His purposes and presence often come disguised as detours, messes, defeats. *I came to you naked*, Jesus says. *I came to you thirsty*. "When, Lord?" we ask, startled. When He wore the disguise of an interruption." (Buchanan's *The Rest of God*)

This reminded me of the great ones of scripture -- like Moses, David, Peter, Paul. And their detours, messes, and defeats -- like murder, adultery and conspiracy to commit murder, denying Jesus and deserting Him at the cross, and murdering Christians and rejecting one of the gospel authors (Mark). And yet, they're still the great ones.

It's amazing how big His grace is. It's amazing how complete His redemption is. It's amazing how much sin is covered by His love.

#### Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

#### Like this:

Like Loading...

Search:

### Follow Blog

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 904 other followers

### Recent Posts

- [Being Blind and Carrying Car Keys](#)
- [More relationship...](#)
- [Another Open Letter to President Obama](#)
- [You Can't Make This Up](#)
- [Burton's Take on Birth Control](#)

### Archives

- [October 2013](#)
- [September 2013](#)
- [August 2013](#)
- [June 2013](#)
- [May 2013](#)
- [April 2013](#)
- [March 2013](#)
- [February 2013](#)
- [January 2013](#)
- [December 2012](#)
- [November 2012](#)
- [October 2012](#)
- [September 2012](#)
- [August 2012](#)
- [July 2012](#)
- [June 2012](#)
- [May 2012](#)
- [April 2012](#)
- [March 2012](#)
- [January 2012](#)
- [December 2011](#)
- [November 2011](#)
- [October 2011](#)
- [September 2011](#)
- [August 2011](#)
- [July 2011](#)
- [April 2011](#)
- [March 2011](#)
- [February 2011](#)
- [January 2011](#)
- [December 2010](#)
- [November 2010](#)
- [October 2010](#)
- [September 2010](#)
- [August 2010](#)
- [July 2010](#)
- [June 2010](#)
- [May 2010](#)
- [April 2010](#)
- [March 2010](#)
- [February 2010](#)
- [January 2010](#)
- [December 2009](#)
- [November 2009](#)
- [October 2009](#)
- [September 2009](#)
- [August 2009](#)
- [July 2009](#)
- [June 2009](#)
- [May 2009](#)
- [March 2009](#)
- [February 2009](#)
- [January 2009](#)
- [December 2008](#)
- [November 2008](#)
- [October 2008](#)
- [September 2008](#)
- [August 2008](#)
- [July 2008](#)
- [June 2008](#)
- [May 2008](#)
- [April 2008](#)
- [March 2008](#)
- [February 2008](#)
- [January 2008](#)
- [December 2007](#)
- [November 2007](#)
- [October 2007](#)
- [September 2007](#)
- [August 2007](#)
- [July 2007](#)
- [June 2007](#)
- [May 2007](#)
- [April 2007](#)
- [March 2007](#)
- [February 2007](#)
- [January 2007](#)

### Categories

[Blog at WordPress.com.](#) [The Chateau Theme.](#)

[Follow](#)

### Follow "Kelly Tshibaka"

Get every new post delivered to your Inbox.

Join 904 other followers

Powered by [WordPress.com](#)

%d bloggers like this:



- [About](#)
- [Resources](#)
- [Speaking](#)

## Kelly Tshibaka

### ~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional



## Monthly Archives: September 2010

### Matthew 6:33

26 Sunday Sep 2010

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [Bible study](#)

≈ [Love a Comment](#)

**Observation:** But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.

**Observation:** "But" contrasts this verse with the one before: don't be like the Gentiles who eagerly seek after "all these things" because God knows what you need. "All these things" includes food, drink, clothes (v. 23); time (v. 27); death (v. 27); nice, high-quality, fashionable clothes (v. 29); and the concerns of tomorrow (v. 34). And the list of "all these things" follows Jesus' comments on not storing up treasures on earth, keeping your eye clear and your body full of light by not storing up wealth, and not serving the god of wealth. So treasures, wealth, and idolatry must encompass food, drink, clothes, nice (workaholicism?), death, fashion, and concerns of tomorrow.

**Application:** What are the things that I'm worried about? How do they relate to this list? I bounce between wanting to give a lot and believing that God will provide everything I need — wanting to give more than I keep and be generous through and through — to being afraid that our needs won't be covered and so brooding back in giving. Pung poning between the two. Knowing that giving is better, but also realizing that sometimes because of my fear I'm not giving in joy — and that's not good either. Oh, I wish my fear didn't stop me, and that I had perfect clarity and wisdom as to whom to give to and how much.

And I'm particularly worried about time — how much time will giving this or that (hospitality, feeding the poor, ministry on campuses) require or me? I want to help, but I'm worried about the time. Where do healthy, God-given boundaries end and idolatry of the clock begin?

**Prayer:** Lord, help me to see what I'm worrying about — and idolizing, so that I may turn from it. And Lord, help me to trust in You to provide for all my needs. "God as my provider" has been a repeat theme lately. Lord, help me to apply what You're teaching me.

**Share this:**

- [Facebook](#)
- [Twitter](#)
- [LinkedIn](#)
- [Google+](#)
- [More](#)

**Like this:**

Like Loading...

### Luke 9:23

26 Sunday Sep 2010

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [Bible study](#), [discipling](#), [my spiritual journey](#)

≈ [Love a Comment](#)

**Scripture:** If anyone wishes to come after Me, he must deny himself, take up his cross daily, and follow Me.

**Observations:**

- Come after:** could mean to pursue, seek, or follow Jesus, like the crowds just a few verses before who sought Him out in the wilderness while He was trying to be alone. Or it could mean to arise, have influence, become known after Jesus is resurrected from the dead. Like how John the Baptist, Elijah, and the prophets of old were known. They were referred to immediately preceding this comment from Jesus. I think this verse is commonly understood to mean seeking after/pursuing Jesus, but in the context of the conversation, it might make more sense to mean having influence/being known after Jesus has ascended to heaven.
- Deny himself, take up cross daily, and follow Me:** Three step process for anyone who wants to come after Jesus. Can't do just one of them, it has to be all three. Deny — Is the same word used for when Peter denied his acquaintance with Jesus three times. Denying yourself is not denying things of God, like rest, boundaries, or commitments. We're not called to die for giving is better, but also realizing that sometimes because of my fear I'm not giving in joy — and that's not good either. Oh, I wish my fear didn't stop me, and that I had perfect clarity and wisdom as to whom to give to and how much.
- Follow Me:** Jesus gave the disciples and numerous others throughout the Gospel who chose not to follow Him but to attend to matters of this world first.

**Application:** To be more like Christ, with Christ, or have greater Kingdom influence, I must daily make a commitment to:

- deny myself (my association with myself, my pride/face saving ways, my selfishness, my fleshly desires),
- take up my cross (willingly enduring the cost for loving others, the price of being wrongly accused, punished, treated poorly without reacting in a sinful way; e.g., enduring challenges and frustrations at work without complaining, gossiping, getting a sour attitude) and
- follow Him (commit to being His disciple daily, learning from Him for He is gentle and lowly in heart, and prioritizing Him and my relationship with Him above all the to-dos of the world and the tyranny of the urgent; e.g., practicing my Jesus "smoke breaks" and spending increasing time with Him).

**Share this:**

- [Facebook](#)
- [Twitter](#)
- [LinkedIn](#)
- [Google+](#)
- [More](#)

**Like this:**

Like Loading...

### Exodus 3

25 Sunday Sep 2010

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [Bible study](#)

≈ [Love a Comment](#)

Reflections from Exodus chapter 3

3:1:

- Moses was an Associate Pastor
- At the mountain of God, Moses sees Him. God's presence is at places set apart for Him. This includes the Temple of our Bodies when we consecrate them to Him as it says in Romans.

3:2:

- God undoes death and destruction. The bush is burning, but not consumed. God undoes the natural laws of how things in this world die. It's hard to fathom what this must have looked like.
- When the Lord is powerfully working in us and through us, we also burn but do not burn out.

3:3:

- The bush was in Moses' peripheral vision. Moses chose to look at it. He had to depart from the path he was on and the task at hand in order to encounter God.

3:4:

- Moses' decision to look at the bush precedes God's calling of Moses. In other words, we have to stop, inquire, and be intrigued about the things of God before we get our calling/clarity in it.
- Moses didn't expect to hear a clear word or call of God if we're not checking out the unusual presences of God around us. Laying down our task at hand to check things out. I WONDER WHAT THIS LOOKS LIKE FOR ME?
- God knows us by name. This meeting was planned. WHAT'S YOUR RESPONSE WHEN GOD CALLS? Moses was available and present — are you?

3:5:

- Intimacy with God and nearness to him is not accessible in the Old Testament. Because sin separates everyone from God until Jesus comes to take sin from us and restore our relationship with God.
- Sandals and holiness — sandals are Moses' covering. Like in Genesis 3 when Adam and Eve covered their sin with clothes. We can't be cleansed unless we are transparent and acknowledge our sin.
- Shoes are dirty; holiness is clean. Shoes represent sin? No shoes on in the house — this is the dwelling place of the Lord? Our bodies are now the holy ground.

3:7:

- "God of your father" — but Moses doesn't have a father. God is talking about the father of Israel, but here God establishes Himself as Moses's father, too. And it establishes Moses's identity in the line of Israel's patriarchs. He's a Hebrew with a calling. Until now, the question of Moses' heart must have been "Who is my father?" Biological father (Hebrew)? Pharaoh (Egyptian)? Jehu (Midianite)?

3:7-9:

- Afflicted/Oppressed is mentioned 5 times. Israel is oppressed!
- The Promised Land is heavily occupied.

3:10:

- God's chosen instrument to do His will is people! Moses was a hot headed, orphaned, fugitive, felon with a speech impediment. And he was God's chosen instrument.

3:11:

- Compare Moses' response to Mary's response when God tells her she's going to give birth to Jesus.
- Moses doesn't mention his fugitive status or the death warrant against him in his list of excuses to God.

3:12:

- Moses focuses on himself. God redirects him back to Him and His Emmanuel-ness. He addresses fears and doubts and pride (false humility) with the promise of His presence and proof (a sign).
- The Lord God gives is after the fact!!! After Moses does all God tells Him, God will give him a sign proving that it was Him all along. What? Obedience precedes revelation (In 14)

3:13:

- Moses first concern: who am I? God responds, I'm with you (Focus on ME). Moses' second question: Who are You? God responds, ME.
- Moses says "your" fathers, not "our" fathers. Does he see himself as a Hebrew yet?

3:15:

- God identifies Himself by His relation to the people we're related to. He's connected to us and we're connected to each other. Oneness restored!

3:17:

- God alerts Israel to the challenges they'll face in the Promised Land from the beginning. And He adds an incentive at the end — milk and honey!

3:18:

- Why does God tell Moses to tell Pharaoh 3 days worship retreat when that never was the intent and Pharaoh wouldn't let them go anyway? Unless God was giving Pharaoh a chance to obey. If Pharaoh had said yes, maybe God would have eased him into the bigger pill to swallow, not hardened his heart, and Pharaoh wouldn't have had to suffer the plagues and the loss of his son.
- But God knew Pharaoh would say no. So his heart was hardened and he suffered so much worse. Rather than this verse indicating God is deceptive, it indicates that He is compassionate and full of love. He gave Pharaoh several chances to let His people go.

3:19:

- God knows the choices we'll make. That's not the same as dictating them or making them for us.

3:20:

- Miracles can be bad!
- Miracles bring deliverance

3:21-22:

- God provides. He promises to make each person and the entire nation greatly wealthy overnight.
- We gain wealth in the midst of our deliverances.

**Share this:**

- [Facebook](#)
- [Twitter](#)
- [LinkedIn](#)
- [Google+](#)
- [More](#)

**Like this:**

Like Loading...

### Sicknesses

25 Sunday Sep 2010

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [kid stories](#)

≈ [Love a Comment](#)

Last week it was a cold/allergy thing that still hasn't gone away completely. Buton has it the worse. Then it was poison ivy. And now it's a stomach bug (totally gross).

Slah: My tummy feels all foggy.

Slah: My tummy muscles hurt. A growl up isn't good for your tummy. This is no place for little guys.

Buton: My tummy feels like a whole bunch of worms are flip-flopping in there.

Slah: Mama, if I frow up again in the middle of the night, should I clean it up all by myself or will you clean it up for me again? (Awwww)

As I was up for an hour and a half in the middle of the night dealing with some of this grossness, I thought, "What an honor! If God were to ask, 'who will love this child so much that they would be responsible for cleaning up after him even when he's really sick?', I want the answer to have anything to do with me!" I get to be the Mama, and the Mama gets to take care of the sick kids.

**Share this:**

- [Facebook](#)
- [Twitter](#)
- [LinkedIn](#)
- [Google+](#)
- [More](#)

**Like this:**

Like Loading...

### God Still Loves Me

24 Friday Sep 2010

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [His mysterious ways](#), [kid stories](#), [raising kids](#), [spiritual truths](#)

≈ [Love a Comment](#)

Buton was just sour one day. Uncharacteristically rebellious. And we had to come down hard on her.

I sent her to her bedroom, and she proceeded to trash her entire bed, including the blankets, toys, and prized items on it. There was just no end to the cantankerousness!

We put all her bedding, toys, and prized items in a trash bag. And then I read her this Bible verse:

*For rebellion is as the sin of divination, and insubordination is as iniquity and idolatry. Because you have rejected the word of the Lord, He has also rejected you from being king. 1 Sam. 15:23*

I explained to her what rebellion was and how she was acting rebellious. I told her that this verse says that the way she's acting is like being like a witch or worshipping a false god. And that people with rebellious hearts reject the word of the Lord, so He also rejects them. I explained to her that my job was to make sure her rebellious heart didn't stick around and become a part of her because I did not want her to be the kind of person who God rejects. She understood the magnitude of her conduct, felt badly, and changed on the spot. It's been several weeks, and we haven't seen a sliver of rebellious since.

I put this verse, Buton said to me, "Mama, there's something I've been meaning to tell you about. Remember when you told me that if I had that ugly heart — what did you call it? Oh, yes, rebellious. If I had a rebellious heart then that means God would not want to have anything to do with me? Well, He might not want to have anything to do with me, but do you know what? He would still love me."

She is so right. I think she understands Him better than I do.

**Share this:**

- [Facebook](#)
- [Twitter](#)
- [LinkedIn](#)
- [Google+](#)
- [More](#)

**Like this:**

Like Loading...

### Wisdom Lines

24 Friday Sep 2010

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [kid stories](#), [raising kids](#)

≈ [Love a Comment](#)

Slah has become fascinated lately with the wrinkles on grown-ups' faces. The other day he spotted the lines on my forehead, and he asked, "Mama, what are those?" Suddenly becoming very self-conscious about my aging face, but wanting to teach him that aging is a good thing, I responded, "Those are wisdom lines."

"How do you get them?" he asked.

"Well, as you get older, you learn more things, have more experiences, and grow in wisdom. And as you get wisdom, you get lines on your face to show how much wisdom you have."

Slah raised his eyebrows up as high as he could. "Do I have wisdom lines on my forehead now, Mama?"

I laughed. "Kind of. Slah, it's not one of those things that you can make happen. It just happens as you go through life. You get wisdom lines on you. And you'll get more lines, too. Don't worry about it if — it'll happen!"

He heard me. But I still catch him raising his eyebrows up high as he looks in the mirror to see how many wisdom lines he has!

**Share this:**

- [Facebook](#)
- [Twitter](#)
- [LinkedIn](#)
- [Google+](#)
- [More](#)

**Like this:**

Like Loading...

### Balance Between Serving and Operating in Giftings

20 Monday Sep 2010

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [balancing it all](#), [ministry](#), [stories from a pioneer church](#)

≈ [Love a Comment](#)

*Kelly, what is the balance between having a servant's heart (so serving anywhere needed and doing anything needed) vs. recognizing your gifts and operating where God has put it on your heart to do so?*

I wish I had a super bright-line-rule answer for you, but I don't. So here are some thoughts I'd offer  
a. pray about opportunities/decisions, even if it's brief (Lord, is this best? as you're heading off to do it);  
b. make long-term commitments/strategically orient yourself towards serving in areas of your giftings, and be servant-hearted more sporadically and as you see needs arise;  
c. beware of pride on both sides of these decisions (I'm too good for this servant-hearted task AND I don't really have any giftings or anything to offer so I'm going to limit myself to only servant-hearted tasks);  
d. when God's heart is servant-hearted no matter what, even if you love doing it, do it humbly and for THEM rather than for you;  
e. when in doubt, ask your pastor.

**Share this:**

- [Facebook](#)
- [Twitter](#)
- [LinkedIn](#)
- [Google+](#)
- [More](#)

**Like this:**

Like Loading...

### Things I Love About Slah

16 Thursday Sep 2010

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [kid stories](#)

≈ [Love a Comment](#)

- Slah was following me all over the house, sticking to me like peanut butter on bread. Finally I asked him, "Why are you spending so much time with me?" He responded so sweetly, "Because I love you, Mama."
- Slah is so excited to be my big helper. And some of the things he does really makes me laugh. Like when I asked him to put the Christmas candle behind the toilet, and he put it behind the toilet... but UNDERNEATH rather than on top! (I'm going to make that a Christmas decorating tradition from now on!) Similarly, I asked him to put the cereal away in the pantry, and he put it on the floor of the pantry, front and center!
- Slah loves to feed diorconbs (not so cute), climb in precarious places (like the ledge off the garage), and jump multiple stairs at a time. He's also super skilled at legendary spy and super hero games.
- One of our friends stayed with us for a couple days. Slah asked her, "Can you stay with us til you go to see Jesus?"
- My mom and sister took and hid the head from one of Slah's toys. He was looking all over for it and kept asking them where his head was. They pressed with him for a loony time, saying things like, "It's right there! It's on top of your shoulders! It's between your ears!" After this continued way too long, Slah finally said, "Guys! You keep talking about my head. But I'm not talking about MY head. I'm talking about my TOY's head. See! (Holds up toy). Where's my TOY's head?!"

**Share this:**

- [Facebook](#)
- [Twitter](#)
- [LinkedIn](#)
- [Google+](#)
- [More](#)

**Like this:**

Like Loading...

### Lessons Learning During Fast

16 Thursday Sep 2010

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [spiritual truths](#)

≈ [Love a Comment](#)

1. The Lord delivered the Israelites from Egypt before their bread was done baking, so they had to take it with them unleavened. Then He provided manna in the desert for them from the time of their exile until they reached the promised land — also unleavened. The unleavenedness is a reminder that God provides exactly what we need. It's like the bread lost its best part by not being leavened. And like how we're also missing out on some of the "best parts" with our fast. But in the midst of what we don't have, we are reminded that we have everything we need.

2. Whenever the Israelites grumbled during their Exodus about their situation, living conditions, or the leadership, they were in fact grumbling against God. "Your grumbings are not against us but against the Lord." (Exod 16:8) I've been more aware of my complaining/critical heart lately. Even when I ask a simple question, as the Israelites sometimes did, I can see the complaining heart behind it. And like how we're also missing out on some of the "best parts" with our fast. But in the midst of what we don't have, we are reminded that we have everything we need.

3. The Lord delivered the Israelites from Egypt before their bread was done baking, so they had to take it with them unleavened. Then He provided manna in the desert for them from the time of their exile until they reached the promised land — also unleavened. The unleavenedness is a reminder that God provides exactly what we need. It's like the bread lost its best part by not being leavened. And like how we're also missing out on some of the "best parts" with our fast. But in the midst of what we don't have, we are reminded that we have everything we need.

4. The Lord delivered the Israelites from Egypt before their bread was done baking, so they had to take it with them unleavened. Then He provided manna in the desert for them from the time of their exile until they reached the promised land — also unleavened. The unleavenedness is a reminder that God provides exactly what we need. It's like the bread lost its best part by not being leavened. And like how we're also missing out on some of the "best parts" with our fast. But in the midst of what we don't have, we are reminded that we have everything we need.

5. The Lord delivered the Israelites from Egypt before their bread was done baking, so they had to take it with them unleavened. Then He provided manna in the desert for them from the time of their exile until they reached the promised land — also unleavened. The unleavenedness is a reminder that God provides exactly what we need. It's like the bread lost its best part by not being leavened. And like how we're also missing out on some of the "best parts" with our fast. But in the midst of what we don't have, we are reminded that we have everything we need.

6. The Lord delivered the Israelites from Egypt before their bread was done baking, so they had to take it with them unleavened. Then He provided manna in the desert for them from the time of their exile until they reached the promised land — also unleavened. The unleavenedness is a reminder that God provides exactly what we need. It's like the bread lost its best part by not being leavened. And like how we're also missing out on some of the "best parts" with our fast. But in the midst of what we don't have, we are reminded that we have everything we need.

7. The Lord delivered the Israelites from Egypt before their bread was done baking, so they had to take it with them unleavened. Then He provided manna in the desert for them from the time of their exile until they reached the promised land — also unleavened. The unleavenedness is a reminder that God provides exactly what we need. It's like the bread lost its best part by not being leavened. And like how we're also missing out on some of the "best parts" with our fast. But in the midst of what we don't have, we are reminded that we have everything we need.

8. The Lord delivered the Israelites from Egypt before their bread was done baking, so they had to take it with them unleavened. Then He provided manna in the desert for them from the time of their exile until they reached the promised land — also unleavened. The unleavenedness is a reminder that God provides exactly what we need. It's like the bread lost its best part by not being leavened. And like how we're also missing out on some of the "best parts" with our fast. But in the midst of what we don't have, we are reminded that we have everything we need.

9. The Lord delivered the Israelites from Egypt before their bread was done baking, so they had to take it with them unleavened. Then He provided manna in the desert for them from the time of their exile until they reached the promised land — also unleavened. The unleavenedness is a reminder that God provides exactly what we need. It's like the bread lost its best part by not being leavened. And like how we're also missing out on some of the "best parts" with our fast. But in the midst of what we don't have, we are reminded that we have everything we need.

10. The Lord delivered the Israelites from Egypt before their bread was done baking, so they had to take it with them unleavened. Then He provided manna in the desert for them from the time of their exile until they reached the promised land — also unleavened. The unleavenedness is a reminder that God provides exactly what we need. It's like the bread lost its best part by not being leavened. And like how we're also missing out on some of the "best parts" with our fast. But in the midst of what we don't have, we are reminded that we have everything we need.

11. The Lord delivered the Israelites from Egypt before their bread was done baking, so they had to take it with them unleavened. Then He provided manna in the desert for them from the time of their exile until they reached the promised land — also unleavened. The unleavenedness is a reminder that God provides exactly what we need. It's like the bread lost its best part by not being leavened. And like how we're also missing out on some of the "best parts" with our fast. But in the midst of what we don't have, we are reminded that we have everything we need.

12. The Lord delivered the Israelites from Egypt before their bread was done baking, so they had to take it with them unleavened. Then He provided manna in the desert for them from the time of their exile until they reached the promised land — also unleavened. The unleavenedness is a reminder that God provides exactly what we need. It's like the bread lost its best part by not being leavened. And like how we're also missing out on some of the "best parts" with our fast. But in the midst of what we don't have, we are reminded that we have everything we need.

13. The Lord delivered the Israelites from Egypt before their bread was done baking, so they had to take it with them unleavened. Then He provided manna in the desert for them from the time of their exile until they reached the promised land — also unleavened. The unleavenedness is a reminder that God provides exactly what we need. It's like the bread lost its best part by not being leavened. And like how we're also missing out on some of the "best parts" with our fast. But in the midst of what we don't have, we are reminded that we have everything we need.

14. The Lord delivered the Israelites from Egypt before their bread was done baking, so they had to take it with them unleavened. Then He provided manna in the desert for them from the time of their exile until they reached the promised land — also unleavened. The unleavenedness is a reminder that God provides exactly what we need. It's like the bread lost its best part by not being leavened. And like how we're also missing out on some of the "best parts" with our fast. But in the midst of what we don't have, we are reminded that we have everything we need.

15. The Lord delivered the Israelites from Egypt before their bread was done baking, so they had to take it with them unleavened. Then He provided manna in the desert for them from the time of their exile until they reached the promised land — also unleavened. The unleavenedness is a reminder that God provides exactly what we need. It's like the bread lost its best part by not being leavened. And like how we're also missing out on some of the "best parts" with our fast. But in the midst of what we don't have, we are reminded that we have everything we need.

16. The Lord delivered the Israelites from Egypt before their bread was done baking, so they had to take it with them unleavened. Then He provided manna in the desert for them from the time of their exile until they reached the promised land — also unleavened. The unleavenedness is a reminder that God provides exactly what we need. It's like the bread lost its best part by not being leavened. And like how we're also missing out on some of the "best parts" with our fast. But in the midst of what we don't have, we are reminded that we have everything we need.

17. The Lord delivered the Israelites from Egypt before their bread was done baking, so they had to take it with them unleavened. Then He provided manna in the desert for them from the time of their exile until they reached the promised land — also unleavened. The unleavenedness is a reminder that God provides exactly what we need. It's like the bread lost its best part by not being leavened. And like how we're also missing out on some of the "best parts" with our fast. But in the midst of what we don't have, we are reminded that we have everything we need.

18. The Lord delivered the Israelites from Egypt before their bread was done baking, so they had to take it with them unleavened. Then He provided manna in the desert for them from the time of their exile until they reached the promised land — also unleavened. The unleavenedness is a reminder that God provides exactly what we need. It's like the bread lost its best part by not being leavened. And like how we're also missing out on some of the "best parts" with our fast. But in the midst of what we don't have, we are reminded that we have everything we need.

19. The Lord delivered the Israelites from Egypt before their bread was done baking, so they had to take it with them unleavened. Then He provided manna in the desert for them from the time of their exile until they reached the promised land — also unleavened. The unleavenedness is a reminder that God provides exactly what we need. It's like the bread lost its best part by not being leavened. And like how we're also missing out on some of the "best parts" with our fast. But in the midst of what we don't have, we are reminded that we have everything we need.

20. The Lord delivered the Israelites from Egypt before their bread was done baking, so they had to take it with them unleavened. Then He provided manna in the desert for them from the time of their exile until they reached the promised land — also unleavened. The unleavenedness is a reminder that God provides exactly what we need. It's like the bread lost its best part by not being leavened. And like how we're also missing out on some of the "best parts" with our fast. But in the midst of what we don't have, we are reminded that we have everything we need.

- [About](#)
- [Resources](#)
- [Speaking](#)

## Kelly Tshibaka

### ~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional

Search:



## Monthly Archives: *January 2010*

### [Button as a Big Sister](#)

11 Monday Jan 2010

Posted by [kishibaka](#) in [kid stories](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

Our friend Kelly overheard the following delightful conversation one morning:

"Slah, I am fixing your hat for you because you broke it."

"You're not fixing my hat. You can't."

"Yes I can, look, I've already fixed half of it. You weren't being very responsible with your toys were you? You need to learn to be responsible with your toys. If you can't be responsible we'll have to stop giving you toys, won't we? Once I've fixed it it will be my hat."

"NO! It's my hat."

"I know Slah, that's why I'm fixing it; I'm fixing it for you."

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

Like this:

Like Loading...

### [More Verses for Me](#)

11 Monday Jan 2010

Posted by [kishibaka](#) in [Uncategorized](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

He has made everything beautiful in its time. He has also set eternity in the hearts of men; yet they cannot fathom what God has done from beginning to end. Ecclesiastes 3:11

The blessing of the LORD brings wealth, and he adds no trouble to it. Proverbs 10:22

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

Like this:

Like Loading...

### [Discussing Cult Personalities with Button](#)

05 Tuesday Jan 2010

Posted by [kishibaka](#) in [Church](#), [kid stories](#), [raising kids](#), [spiritual truths](#), [women's topics](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

*"Evangelical churches today are, more often than not, characterized by a cult of personality--whether that of the pastor, the worship leader, the worship team, etc.--when the dominant person and personality in any and every church service should be that of our Lord and Savior as expressed through the various members of His body. It seems that our liturgies, the entertainment theology that pervades our services, and our lack of understanding of what it means to be the Incarnational Church all have contributed to this troubling trend."*

This is so true! America loves its idols.

I just had a talk with Button on this topic in the car this morning. She was asking where Nikl is this week and I told her that he had to take some time this week to prepare sermons and better pastor the church. She said, "But I thought I was going to be the pastor?" I said, "Yes, you can be the pastor when you grow up. You're well on your way to it now, but you're not quite ready for that yet."

Then she said, "Mama, can I ask you something?" (always a set up for a "difficuwrt question.")

"Sure, Button."

"Mama, can girls be pastors too?"

"Oh, yes, Button. Of course they can. You can be a pastor when you grow up. Mama's a pastor, too."

"You are? Then what do we call you? Pastor Kelly?"

"Yeah, that's okay."

"How bout Pastor Mama?"

"That's fine, too. But I really don't like being called Pastor because the bible says that's a title reserved for Jesus. I really don't like titles."

"Why don't you like titles, Mama?"

"Because it takes the focus away from God and turns it to a person. People start thinking the person with the title is special and they put them up on a pedestal and start looking to them rather than Jesus. And that's how people with titles become idols. I don't want to be an idol to anyone."

"Oh, you don't want them worshipping you rather than Jesus?"

"That's right, Button."

"I don't want that either."

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

Like this:

Like Loading...

Search:

### Follow Blog

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 904 other followers

### Recent Posts

- [Being Blind and Carrying Car Keys](#)
- [More relationsh...](#)
- [Another Open Letter to President Obama](#)
- [You Can't Make This Up](#)
- [Button's Take on Birth Control](#)

### Archives

- [October 2013](#)
- [September 2013](#)
- [August 2013](#)
- [June 2013](#)
- [May 2013](#)
- [April 2013](#)
- [March 2013](#)
- [February 2013](#)
- [January 2013](#)
- [December 2012](#)
- [November 2012](#)
- [October 2012](#)
- [September 2012](#)
- [August 2012](#)
- [July 2012](#)
- [June 2012](#)
- [May 2012](#)
- [April 2012](#)
- [March 2012](#)
- [January 2012](#)
- [December 2011](#)
- [November 2011](#)
- [October 2011](#)
- [September 2011](#)
- [August 2011](#)
- [July 2011](#)
- [April 2011](#)
- [March 2011](#)
- [February 2011](#)
- [January 2011](#)
- [December 2010](#)
- [November 2010](#)
- [October 2010](#)
- [September 2010](#)
- [August 2010](#)
- [July 2010](#)
- [June 2010](#)
- [May 2010](#)
- [April 2010](#)
- [March 2010](#)
- [February 2010](#)
- [January 2010](#)
- [December 2009](#)
- [November 2009](#)
- [October 2009](#)
- [September 2009](#)
- [August 2009](#)
- [July 2009](#)
- [June 2009](#)
- [May 2009](#)
- [March 2009](#)
- [February 2009](#)
- [January 2009](#)
- [December 2008](#)
- [November 2008](#)
- [October 2008](#)
- [September 2008](#)
- [August 2008](#)
- [July 2008](#)
- [June 2008](#)
- [May 2008](#)
- [April 2008](#)
- [March 2008](#)
- [February 2008](#)
- [January 2008](#)
- [December 2007](#)
- [November 2007](#)
- [October 2007](#)
- [September 2007](#)
- [August 2007](#)
- [July 2007](#)
- [June 2007](#)
- [May 2007](#)
- [April 2007](#)
- [March 2007](#)
- [February 2007](#)
- [January 2007](#)

### Categories

Select Category

[Blog at WordPress.com.](#) [The Chateau Theme.](#)

[Follow](#)

Follow “**Kelly Tshibaka**”

Get every new post delivered to your Inbox.

Join 904 other followers

Powered by [WordPress.com](#)

%d bloggers like this:







- [About](#)
- [Resources](#)
- [Speaking](#)

## Kelly Tshibaka

### ~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional

Search:



## Monthly Archives: *March 2012*

### [Pregnant!](#)

**20 Tuesday** Mar 2012

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [personal](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

Ooh, I'm pregnant! SO very exciting. We've been waiting with great hope for this baby for the past 2 years. Baby is due sometime in mid to late October. Sonograms look good, and I've already passed the date when we lost Shiloh, so that's a huge relief to me. Totally psychological, I know. But it's still a relief.

This pregnancy has been rougher than I remember the other ones being. A lot of morning sickness, and not just confined to mornings. Which means I've been walking around not really myself for several weeks. And apparently I've got several more to go... bummer. I even got medicines this time to help me cope. And ginger chews. And ginger juice. And ginger ale. And I just love lemonade and lemon waters. Mmmmm. But sometimes nothing seems to help. Like today.

And then there's the naps. I seem to need a lot of them. The nausea is on par with what I had with Slah. And the fatigue is similar to what I had with Button. So it's like a mixture of both their pregnancies.

And then the random foot thing. Early swelling (normal) caused bizarre nerve reaction (abnormal) which in turn led to serious tendonitis in my ankle. Which resulted in me getting a big ol ski boat to help stabilize my ankle to relieve the pain. So now I look like a partial Transformer. Kinda cool, but not really the cute pregnancy look I was *going* for.

When I'm not trying to avoid the nausea or walk without stumbling, I love eating meat! Mmmmm! And cheese. Especially cheddar cheese. Had a craving for tomato soup. Snacking on a lot of pretzels lately. And I want to eat sugar, but my appetite's like, No.

We already are dreaming about names, even though we're a couple months away from finding out the gender. And I can't wait to see who this little person is — we've felt like our family is incomplete for awhile now — at least since Button was born. This might be the completion of the family! Either way, I'm really looking forward to seeing who's been missing. I suspect Baby will fill a hole in our hearts that we've sensed but never knew was as deep as it is.

And I can't wait to hear Baby's laugh and to see Baby's smile. And some of our friends are taking bets on what shade this one will be, since we have a light, medium, and dark child already. So fun to have the United Colors of Benetton family. I hope Baby has dimples like all the siblings. And oh, I'd love Button's curly hair again. After I chopped off Slah's curls they never really came back.

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### [Christian Parenting Part 6](#)

**19 Monday** Mar 2012

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [raising kids](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

We have several discipline options, like taking toys away (short or long term), keeping them from participating in certain activities, time outs, sent to room (extended time outs), giving or taking away privileges, getting what they complained about (e.g., kid complains about having to go to the store, so now kid doesn't get to go at all but has to stay home), and, if needed, spankings (give the number of spankings based on how old they are — 3 spankings for a 3 year old). I found that with one kid, extended time outs work well, while with the other one, confiscating toys works well. So we vary it by the kid.

Beyond the toddler years, I found that spankings are generally much less effective than other disciplines.

Whatever gets to your kid the most is the best discipline for them.

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### [Christian Parenting Part 5](#)

**18 Sunday** Mar 2012

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [raising kids](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

As for discipline, I apply a couple principles:

- It's about shepherding the child's heart, so discipline has to vary by kid and by incident to accomplish that purpose
- Only discipline a child when the child is aware of the rule before breaking it
- Be consistent: violations of rules always incur the same kind of discipline
- The discipline that is most effective is the discipline that most affects the child
- The result of discipline should always bring parent and child closer together. If the child is mad or dejected, something didn't go right.
- Discipline in private. The objective is not to shame them.
- Discipline calmly (sometimes I have to take a mommy time-out before disciplining)
- Keep rules broad and few so it's easy for the kids to remember. For example, the rules in our family are:

- o Respect (encompasses listening and not quarreling)
- o Obey (encompasses following all directions and listening)
- o No complaining
- o No lying

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### [Christian Parenting Part 4](#)

**17 Saturday** Mar 2012

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [raising kids](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

I also involve them in my spiritual life. I pray my big, serious in-depth scripture-using prayers with them and soon they start to do the same. I tell them sometimes when I mess up and God disciplines me (they think it's funny that God "spanks" mommy). I teach them the things God has taught me, using a lot of personal stories. A book I read that helped me to think about how to grow my kids spiritually was Transforming Kids into Spiritual Champions (something like that). I recommend it.

Sometimes I think we can water down spiritual truths for kids because we don't think they can comprehend it, when in fact they can. So invite them to observe and try grown-up Christianity, if you will. For instance, I have our kids fast through lunch on Good Friday. We also re-enact the events of Easter week using play-doh and pipe cleaners (I make them into men who represent the disciples, Jesus, crowds, the angels, the Romans, etc. We read a section of the story each day on the day it happened in the week leading up to Easter, and then we all play parts in the story and act it out with the pipe cleaners).

I also let them watch grown-up Christian movies, fast forwarding through any parts that are not age appropriate. Like we watch the Nativity Story at Christmas to emphasize what Christmas is about. I also get them involved in serving or giving at Christmas. One year we fed and gave gifts to the homeless. Another year I let them pick poor entrepreneurs in third world countries to support.

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### [Christian Parenting Part 3](#)

**16 Friday** Mar 2012

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [raising kids](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

A lot of what I do is take things in their lives and explain them in kingdom principles. For example, it's important to take care of our environment. Why? Because God created the earth and He cares very much for what He made. So to honor and respect Him, we also care very much for what He made. And we don't call people names. Why? Because people were made in the image of God. Even the meanest and ugliest people are image bearers. So when we call someone a name, we are disrespecting God more than we are that person. Or we don't lie. Why? Because Satan is the father of all lies and when we lie we are letting him into our lives when in fact we are set apart as God's people.

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### [Christian Parenting Part 2](#)

**15 Thursday** Mar 2012

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [raising kids](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

With respect to raising kids in the ways of the Lord, it's important to first ask what you're hoping to do. For example, my underlying principle is that I want my kids to have their own relationship with Jesus. So that means I'm focused on facilitating that relationship, not imposing it on them, requiring them to believe in Jesus, or having them copy or vicariously adopt my faith.

I want them to understand truths about God and how to apply them to their current world. I want them to understand His character and attributes. I want them to talk to Him and hear what He says to them. I want them to recognize His working in their lives and be so confident of it that they are bold enough to tell others. I can't make any of this happen, but I can model it for them and I can create an environment that facilitates it.

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### [Christian Parenting Part 1](#)

**14 Wednesday** Mar 2012

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [raising kids](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

I think one of they most essential keys to effective parenting is having underlying principles to it all — why you do what you do. I believe the "what" could be different for parents, or even for children in the same family (for example, we vary in our discipline for each of the three kids). And a lot of the questions Christian parents ask come from the place of "why."

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### [Hearing God](#)

**13 Tuesday** Mar 2012

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [discipling](#), [His mysterious ways](#), [ministry](#), [my spiritual journey](#), [spiritual truths](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

With the caveat that hearing the voice of God is not formulaic, nor does God respond on our time or (often) with the answer we seek, here is a simple process I offer for beginning to hear the voice of God:

1. Praise
  - Begin by praising the Lord. Sing a worship song. Say out loud the reasons you love Him and are thankful for Him — what He's done (provided, healed, saved) as well as who He is (Lamb of God, Risen One, Jesus, God Almighty, Our Father in Heaven).
2. Ask
  - Articulate the question for which you're seeking an answer. *Ask and you shall receive.* (Which implies that if you don't ask, you won't receive...). So, for example,
    - "Jesus, do I hate this person?"
    - "Lord, what job should I take?"
    - "God, what words do you have for the person who I'm concerned about?"
    - "Jesus, what ideas do you have for solving my [marriage, financial, work] problem?"
    - "Lord, what do I say to my friend who is considering divorce?"
3. Listen
  - Wait in silence. At least 15 minutes, but 30 is better. Write down anything that comes to mind — from seemingly random movie clips, to shopping lists, to Bible verses. At the end, a theme should emerge and it will be more clear what was God and what were fleeting thoughts. Sometimes it takes a lot longer than 30 minutes...like days or even weeks. Just be prepared to listen. If you want to hear from Him, then *he who has ears let him hear.* In other words, you have to listen.
4. Confirmation
  - After you think God may have given you an answer, look for "coincidences" that confirm the answer. From Bible verses, to a song on the radio, to a passing comment someone makes, to repeat phrases or themes that keep coming across your path, to the counsel of someone who has a little more experience hearing from God — look for things that confirm what you think God might have said.
5. Act
  - Then most importantly, step out in faith and act on what you believe He said. You might get it wrong, but God honors the heart that desires to follow Him. If we're going to err, err on the side of believing it's God than on the side of not believing what He said. *He who keeps my commandments is the one who loves Me.* And the more you step out in faith, the more you'll hear.
  - : D

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

Search:

### Follow Blog

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 904 other followers

### Recent Posts

- [Being Blind and Carrying Car Keys](#)
- [More relationship...](#)
- [Another Open Letter to President Obama](#)
- [You Can't Make This Up](#)
- [Button's Take on Birth Control](#)

### Archives

- [October 2013](#)
- [September 2013](#)
- [August 2013](#)
- [June 2013](#)
- [May 2013](#)
- [April 2013](#)
- [March 2013](#)
- [February 2013](#)
- [January 2013](#)
- [December 2012](#)
- [November 2012](#)
- [October 2012](#)
- [September 2012](#)
- [August 2012](#)
- [July 2012](#)
- [June 2012](#)
- [May 2012](#)
- [April 2012](#)
- [March 2012](#)
- [January 2012](#)
- [December 2011](#)
- [November 2011](#)
- [October 2011](#)
- [September 2011](#)
- [August 2011](#)
- [July 2011](#)
- [April 2011](#)
- [March 2011](#)
- [February 2011](#)
- [January 2011](#)
- [December 2010](#)
- [November 2010](#)
- [October 2010](#)
- [September 2010](#)
- [August 2010](#)
- [July 2010](#)
- [June 2010](#)
- [May 2010](#)
- [April 2010](#)
- [March 2010](#)
- [February 2010](#)
- [January 2010](#)
- [December 2009](#)
- [November 2009](#)
- [October 2009](#)
- [September 2009](#)
- [August 2009](#)
- [July 2009](#)
- [June 2009](#)
- [May 2009](#)
- [March 2009](#)
- [February 2009](#)
- [January 2009](#)
- [December 2008](#)
- [November 2008](#)
- [October 2008](#)
- [September 2008](#)
- [August 2008](#)
- [July 2008](#)
- [June 2008](#)
- [May 2008](#)
- [April 2008](#)
- [March 2008](#)
- [February 2008](#)
- [January 2008](#)
- [December 2007](#)
- [November 2007](#)
- [October 2007](#)
- [September 2007](#)
- [August 2007](#)
- [July 2007](#)
- [June 2007](#)
- [May 2007](#)
- [April 2007](#)
- [March 2007](#)
- [February 2007](#)
- [January 2007](#)

### Categories

Select Category

Blog at WordPress.com: [The Chateau Theme](#).

[Follow](#)

Follow "Kelly Tshibaka"

Get every new post delivered to your Inbox.

Join 904 other followers

Powered by [WordPress.com](#)

%d bloggers like this:

- About
- Resources
- Speaking

## Kelly Tshibaka

### ~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional

Search:



## Monthly Archives: February 2013

### Note of Encouragement

28 Thursday Feb 2013

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [Notes for Pastor's Wife](#)

~ [Leave a Comment](#)

**Tags**  
[Pastoring](#)

From a guy in our church (big smile!):

*I'm so sorry to gush, and I hope I don't make you uncomfortable, but again, you have no idea how much this (and everything you and Niki have done) means to me. It's so obvious why God brought you into our lives (for this issue and many others!). You're an amazing pastor, sister, and dear friend and I can only hope that I can be half the support to you (and Niki) that you are to me. Again, sorry for gushing. ☺*

**Share this:**

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

**Like this:**

Like Loading...

### Witches Are Bad for Your Health

26 Tuesday Feb 2013

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [spiritual truths](#)

~ [Leave a Comment](#)

**Tags**  
[Pastoring](#)

I'm concerned about how the recent onslaught of movies, tv shows, and books incorporate, focus on, or glorify things like magic, witchcraft, vampires, or the occult. Separate from the thoughts I have about our culture and society as a whole, I'm not sure that believers realize that indulging such topics is not good for them.

I'm thinking about how scripture says all things witchcraft/sorcery/etc. is an abomination to the Lord. And those who practice them are not blameless before Him and will not inherit the Kingdom of God (Deut. 18:10-13; Gal. 3:19-21; Rev. 21:8). In other words, these things (magic, witchcraft, sorcery, the occult, etc.) have eternal consequences.

Given how strongly the Bible speaks against these things and condemns those involved in them, and given how intoxicating and addicting these topics can be, it's wise for believers to avoid them altogether.

It's not that believers are prohibited by God from watching a movie about vampires, reading books containing witchcraft, etc. As the Bible says, "Everything is permissible for me"—but not everything is beneficial." (1 Cor 10:23). But just because you can do it doesn't mean it's good for you. And it also doesn't mean that it won't master you (which witchcraft/sorcery/magic/spells/etc. will eventually do).

In that same passage, Paul says, "You cannot drink the cup of the Lord and the cup of demons too; you cannot have a part in both the Lord's table and the table of demons. Are we trying to arouse the Lord's jealousy? Are we stronger than he?" (1 Cor. 10:21-22) I want all believers to be educated on these things, to know the danger of them, and to choose not to arouse the Lord's jealousy or take lightly something the Lord condemns heavily. In other words, when it comes to this cultural preoccupation with occultic activity, may believers proceed with caution and be very, very careful.

**Share this:**

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

**Like this:**

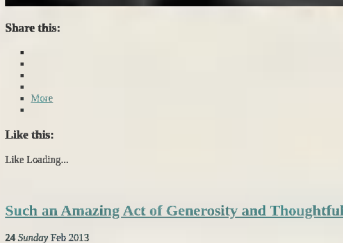
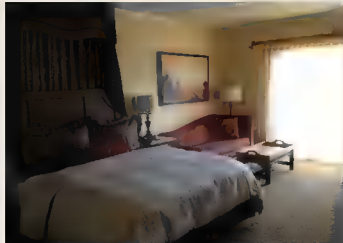
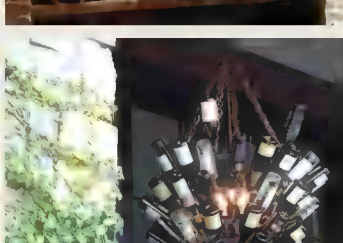
Like Loading...

### Romantic Anniversary in Napa Valley

25 Monday Feb 2013

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [marriage, personal](#)

~ [1 Comment](#)



**Share this:**

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

**Like this:**

Like Loading...

### Such an Amazing Act of Generosity and Thoughtfulness

24 Sunday Feb 2013

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [His mysterious ways, ministry, personal](#)

~ [Leave a Comment](#)

**Tags**  
[Pastoring](#)

This week was one of the most encouraging and blessing-filled ever! In addition to an overflow of expressions of gratitude and kind words from people in our church, one of the people in our church arranged to have delicious dinners from some of our favorite restaurants delivered every night for a week! It was like getting to go out to eat every night without having to get a babysitter! And it was such a relief—not having to cook dinner for a week. The kids loved it—they would wait expectantly to see what restaurant would deliver that night.

It's so fun to see how God uses those with the spiritual gift of Giving to work like stealth agents of the Kingdom, meeting very real needs in surprising ways that make you feel special and lift your heart.

We felt so loved, so honored, and so cared for by this person. This gift was exactly what we needed and it made our week so much happier and less stressful.

I'd totally identify this Giver, but one of the ways you most honor a Giver is by sharing a knowing "wink" with them while keeping their identity anonymous. So a shout out on the World Wide Web will have to suffice. :)

**Share this:**

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

**Like this:**

Like Loading...

### What Do People in Ministry Need to Know?

22 Friday Feb 2013

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [ministry](#)

~ [2 Comments](#)

**Tags**  
[Pastoring](#)

If someone is going to go into ministry, what are the nuts & bolts things they need to know? Here's my list... what would you add? What are the 3 most important things?

- How to share the Gospel (including explaining how Jesus is Our Savior, Our Healer, Our Baptizer with the Holy Spirit, and Our Coming King);
- How to read, study, and apply the Word of God;
- How to officiate communion;
- How to perform water baptism;
- How to lead people into being baptized in the Holy Spirit;
- How to explain Sin, Salvation, Repentance and Redemption, as well as the Trinity and the functions and roles of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, respectively;
- How to share their testimony;
- How to share with others what the Lord is teaching them;
- How to hear and discern the voice of God;
- How to pray and intercede (including praying for people's healing and deliverance);
- How to serve and sacrifice in humility and love;
- How to be generous with the Lord and with those in need;
- How to have faith in the Lord when facing seemingly impossible challenges and obstacles;
- How to engage in spiritual warfare;
- How to explain and live out the nature and purpose of the Church;
- How to identify people's spiritual gifts and ministries, as well as how to operate in their own;
- How to explain the fruit of the Spirit, having demonstrated growth in that area themselves; and
- How to disciple others in all of the above areas.

**Share this:**

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

**Like this:**

Like Loading...

### What's Wrong With Me?

20 Wednesday Feb 2013

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [healing, letters, spiritual truths](#)

~ [Leave a Comment](#)

**Tags**  
[Pastoring](#)

*Hi Kelly, I have been depressed since summer. My mental situation gets better from time to time, but I still have at least once per month that I cannot get up to work. I regret decisions I have made. The regret feeling hits me, even after I tell myself "God has plan for me, a plan not to harm me but a plan to prosper me to give me the hope and the future." I feel ashamed. It is like an endless loop. I have shared my struggles with my Christian friends, and they were very supportive: they prayed for me, they said that I am awesome, they said God will see his image in me... However, their encouragement makes me doubt myself even more: I feel they are lying to me because they love me and don't want to hurt me. Am I too sensitive of my problem? Why don't my problems go away? Even after I try so many things: memory verses, writing thanks list, taking medicine, seeing therapist, go to church, fellowship... Could you please tell me what's wrong with me?*

First of all, so MANY people think about and struggle with the same things you're struggling with, even though they may not actually express it...

A lot of what you're going through can be explained by the fact that when we individually, personally confront the reality of a real, living, powerful, intervening, **loving** God, it draws out all the imperfections of how we think about ourselves, life and, ultimately the Lord... This could be a great season of repenting (i.e. purposefully changing your mind/thinking and redirecting/replacing it) of ALL those things that don't line up with the truth as The Lord/scripture lay it out—and by "season", I mean an extended period of time that we don't get to control when it starts and when it ends...it can be a long time, and it can be frustrating and painful.

And I would also guess that you are confronting lifetime patterns of trying to control things in your life, and not being able to do so. This could be a season of learning to yield — scripture says, "like a weaned child, I do not consider things too great for me..."

A wonderful picture, that "weaned child"...that child has been crying and screaming and struggling with feeling like they are going to DIE unless they are fed the only way they have been and, thereby, the only way they understand and believe will sustain them...however, it is a new time and season for that child to be fed/sustained/live another way that is quite unfamiliar. In that picture, the wrestling is over and that child has YIELDED to rest in the arms of the Lord and there is peace...

You want that kind of peace and that is a wonderful thing to hunger and long for...You have worked hard for it, with your efforts to get up, go to work, come to church, be prayed for, go to counseling, get medical help, etc.

This is the kind of scripture that would be most helpful for you to search for and find...you are in a PROCESS that requires something of you, that will end up forcing you to do/think things in a NEW and DIFFERENT way than the past—a past that ended up being unsatisfying and unfruitful and has brought you to this place of need...Rethinking is the greatest step to complete transformation.

You could look for scripture/people in scripture (that is alive and POWERFUL, beyond all else—including pills, counseling, distractions and vacations) that you can identify with and see where it takes you. For example, you could find a lot to identify with David in the book of Psalms—he complained a lot as did Job...both of these men struggled and wrestled deeply and sincerely with the God they believed in, but eventually yielded to believing in the ultimate, pure and active goddess of that God...

Often times the hardest part of our faith is simply believing. Even Jesus said the real work of God is truly believing (Jn. 6:29). If God loved you so much that He died for you, if you really believe that, then it's easy to conclude you are fearfully and wonderfully made. Simply believing can be SO HARD.

Keep believing and keep moving forward. Your victory is just around the corner.

**Share this:**

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

**Like this:**

Like Loading...

### My Dreams

18 Monday Feb 2013

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [balancing it all, discipling, ministry, my spiritual journey, personal](#)

~ [1 Comment](#)

**Tags**  
[Pastoring](#), [Pioneering](#), [Pioneering, Professional](#)

And this is where the w a t t i n g comes in. I want to stay home with my kids, make our house a home, and use my free time not to work as an attorney but to do more ministry (raising up leaders, resourcing and equipping others, making disciples, etc.). I relate with Joseph in his waiting, *How long, O Lord?* He knows my heart, though, and I believe there will be a time for this. But it's not right now...right now I'm following in the footsteps of Onesimus—saying "yes" to an assignment others would pass up and could not endure.

**Share this:**

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

**Like this:**

Like Loading...

### My Heart in Ministry

16 Saturday Feb 2013

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [ministry, personal](#)

~ [Leave a Comment](#)

**Tags**  
[Pastoring](#)

Hum... I love 1) raising up leaders in ministry, 2) discipling, and 3) speaking/preaching/persuading people of Gospel-related truths. I also like offering healing prayer (physical, emotional, and deliverance), prophetic words, and words of wisdom. Oh, and I LOVE singing. I have the heart of a worship leader, but apparently not the voice of one...

**Share this:**

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

**Like this:**

Like Loading...

### Our Once Rocky Marriage Hits 12 Years

10 Sunday Feb 2013

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [marriage](#)

~ [Leave a Comment](#)

*We got this from one of the bridesmaids in our wedding, who walked closely with us through the first years, and truly knows what a challenging our recent 12 year anniversary was—there was a time when it wasn't clear whether or not we'd stay married. She knew us well during that time, and that's why it meant a lot to get this note from her.*

I'm delighted by your anniversary because you are my dear friends and because the strength and beauty of your marriage after a rocky start gives me hope – past grace that helps me hope for future grace. That is especially helpful now as I'm surrounded by struggling marriages where it's sometimes hard to hope! Thank you for your friendship which is more precious to my husband and me than you probably know and for your example of love and grace. I love you guys! Hope you have some time to celebrate!

**Share this:**

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

**Like this:**

Like Loading...

[← Older posts](#)

Search:

### Follow Blog

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 994 other followers

### Recent Posts

- [Being Blind and Carrying Our Keys](#)
- [More reflections...](#)
- [Another Open Letter to President Obama](#)
- [You Can't Make This Up](#)
- [Bunna's Take on Birth Control](#)

### Archives

- [October 2013](#)
- [September 2013](#)
- [October 2013](#)
- [June 2013](#)
- [May 2013](#)
- [April 2013](#)
- [March 2013](#)
- [February 2013](#)
- [January 2013](#)
- [December 2012](#)
- [November 2012](#)
- [October 2012](#)
- [September 2012](#)
- [August 2012](#)
- [July 2012](#)
- [June 2012](#)
- [May 2012](#)
- [April 2012](#)
- [March 2012](#)
- [February 2012](#)
- [January 2012](#)
- [December 2011](#)
- [November 2011](#)
- [October 2011](#)
- [September 2011](#)
- [August 2011](#)
- [July 2011](#)
- [June 2011](#)
- [May 2011](#)
- [April 2011](#)
- [March 2011](#)
- [February 2011](#)
- [January 2011](#)
- [December 2010](#)
- [November 2010](#)
- [October 2010](#)
- [September 2010](#)
- [August 2010](#)
- [July 2010](#)
- [June 2010](#)
- [May 2010](#)
- [April 2010](#)
- [March 2010](#)
- [February 2010](#)
- [January 2010](#)
- [December 2009](#)
- [November 2009](#)
- [October 2009](#)
- [September 2009](#)
- [August 2009](#)
- [July 2009](#)
- [June 2009](#)
- [May 2009](#)
- [April 2009](#)
- [March 2009](#)
- [February 2009](#)
- [January 2009](#)
- [December 2008](#)
- [November 2008](#)
- [October 2008](#)
- [September 2008](#)
- [August 2008](#)
- [July 2008](#)
- [June 2008](#)
- [May 2008](#)
- [April 2008](#)
- [March 2008](#)
- [February 2008](#)
- [January 2008](#)
- [December 2007](#)
- [November 2007](#)
- [October 2007](#)
- [September 2007](#)
- [August 2007](#)
- [July 2007](#)
- [June 2007](#)
- [May 2007](#)
- [April 2007](#)
- [March 2007](#)
- [February 2007](#)
- [January 2007](#)

### Categories

[Blog at WordPress.com](#) [The Chateau Theme](#).

[Follow](#)

### Follow "Kelly Tshibaka"

Get every new post delivered to your Inbox.

Join 994 other followers

Powered by [WordPress.com](#)  
96 bloggers like this:







- [About](#)
- [Resources](#)
- [Speaking](#)

## Kelly Tshibaka

~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional

Search:



### You Can't Make This Up

25 Wednesday Sep 2013

Posted by [kushibaka](#) in [Uncategorized](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

On the radio this morning, and they weren't joking:

"If the government shuts down next week, all of DC will shut down, too. Trash, transportation, you name it. That's because the city of DC is funded by Congress. This news update is brought to you by Big Apple Circus."

You got that right...

#### Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

#### Like this:

Like Loading...

#### Post navigation

[← Previous post](#) [Next post →](#)

Leave a Reply

Enter your comment here...

Fill in your details below or click an icon to log in:

- 
- 
- 
- 

Email (Address never made public)

Name

Website



You are commenting using your WordPress.com account. ( [Log Out](#) / [Change](#) )

You are commenting using your Twitter account. ( [Log Out](#) / [Change](#) )

You are commenting using your Facebook account. ( [Log Out](#) / [Change](#) )

You are commenting using your Google+ account. ( [Log Out](#) / [Change](#) )

[Cancel](#)

Connecting to %s

☐ Notify me of follow-up comments via email.

☐ Notify me of new posts via email.

Search:

#### Follow Blog

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 904 other followers

#### Recent Posts

- [Encouraging Words from a Church Leader](#)
- [Bath time, cuddling with Papa, and soccer with Sissy](#)
- [Being Blind and Carrying Car Keys](#)
- [More relationships...](#)
- [Another Open Letter to President Obama](#)

#### Archives

- [October 2013](#)
- [September 2013](#)
- [August 2013](#)
- [June 2013](#)
- [May 2013](#)
- [April 2013](#)
- [March 2013](#)
- [February 2013](#)
- [January 2013](#)
- [December 2012](#)
- [November 2012](#)
- [October 2012](#)
- [September 2012](#)
- [August 2012](#)
- [July 2012](#)
- [June 2012](#)
- [May 2012](#)
- [April 2012](#)
- [March 2012](#)
- [January 2012](#)
- [December 2011](#)
- [November 2011](#)
- [October 2011](#)
- [September 2011](#)
- [August 2011](#)
- [July 2011](#)
- [April 2011](#)
- [March 2011](#)
- [February 2011](#)
- [January 2011](#)
- [December 2010](#)
- [November 2010](#)
- [October 2010](#)
- [September 2010](#)
- [August 2010](#)
- [July 2010](#)
- [June 2010](#)
- [May 2010](#)
- [April 2010](#)
- [March 2010](#)
- [February 2010](#)
- [January 2010](#)
- [December 2009](#)
- [November 2009](#)
- [October 2009](#)
- [September 2009](#)
- [August 2009](#)
- [July 2009](#)
- [June 2009](#)
- [May 2009](#)
- [March 2009](#)
- [February 2009](#)
- [January 2009](#)
- [December 2008](#)
- [November 2008](#)
- [October 2008](#)
- [September 2008](#)
- [August 2008](#)
- [July 2008](#)
- [June 2008](#)
- [May 2008](#)
- [April 2008](#)
- [March 2008](#)
- [February 2008](#)
- [January 2008](#)
- [December 2007](#)
- [November 2007](#)
- [October 2007](#)
- [September 2007](#)
- [August 2007](#)
- [July 2007](#)
- [June 2007](#)
- [May 2007](#)
- [April 2007](#)
- [March 2007](#)
- [February 2007](#)
- [January 2007](#)

#### Categories

Select Category

[Blog at WordPress.com. The Chateau Theme.](#)

[Follow](#)

#### Follow “Kelly Tshibaka”

Get every new post delivered to your Inbox.

Join 904 other followers

Enter your email address

Powered by [WordPress.com](#)

%d bloggers like this:



- [About](#)
- [Resources](#)
- [Speaking](#)

## Kelly Tshibaka

~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional

Search:



### Speaking

Kelly is available to speak on topics ranging from discipleship to healing prayer, spiritual gifts to pastoring, parenting to marriage, and of course, the straight-up Gospel. Inquiries can be directed to [info@kellytshibaka.com](mailto:info@kellytshibaka.com).

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

Like this:

Like Loading...

#### 1 thought on “Speaking”

1. Jeongkwon Choi said:

[July 28, 2013 at 11:10 pm](#)

Dear kelly,

Hi my name is Jeongkwon Choi

Your movie(This is Discipleship) is very impressive... I live in South Korea. I saw the video clip that you make to a Korean translate version(vimeo site version). But that's meaning does not appear well. so strange. I can help you correct to translation. Your movie will affect to a Churches & a Christians in South Korea. and if you remakes to movie in korean version, can I use your movie clip in worship service? I'm pastor of Bundang Woori Church. Our Church is very affected Churches in the middle of South Korea.

I will waiting to your reply. much more...

sincerely.. Choi.

[Reply](#)

#### Leave a Reply

(Address never made public)

☐ Notify me of follow-up comments via email.

☐ Notify me of new posts via email.

Search:

### Follow Blog

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 904 other followers

### Recent Posts

- [Being Blind and Carrying Car Keys](#)
- [More relationship...](#)
- [Another Open Letter to President Obama](#)
- [You Can't Make This Up](#)
- [Burton's Take on Birth Control](#)

### Archives

- [October 2013](#)
- [September 2013](#)
- [August 2013](#)
- [June 2013](#)
- [May 2013](#)
- [April 2013](#)
- [March 2013](#)
- [February 2013](#)
- [January 2013](#)
- [December 2012](#)
- [November 2012](#)
- [October 2012](#)
- [September 2012](#)
- [August 2012](#)
- [July 2012](#)
- [June 2012](#)
- [May 2012](#)
- [April 2012](#)
- [March 2012](#)
- [January 2012](#)
- [December 2011](#)
- [November 2011](#)
- [October 2011](#)
- [September 2011](#)
- [August 2011](#)
- [July 2011](#)
- [April 2011](#)
- [March 2011](#)
- [February 2011](#)
- [January 2011](#)
- [December 2010](#)
- [November 2010](#)
- [October 2010](#)
- [September 2010](#)
- [August 2010](#)
- [July 2010](#)
- [June 2010](#)
- [May 2010](#)
- [April 2010](#)
- [March 2010](#)
- [February 2010](#)
- [January 2010](#)
- [December 2009](#)
- [November 2009](#)
- [October 2009](#)
- [September 2009](#)
- [August 2009](#)
- [July 2009](#)
- [June 2009](#)
- [May 2009](#)
- [March 2009](#)
- [February 2009](#)
- [January 2009](#)
- [December 2008](#)
- [November 2008](#)
- [October 2008](#)
- [September 2008](#)
- [August 2008](#)
- [July 2008](#)
- [June 2008](#)
- [May 2008](#)
- [April 2008](#)
- [March 2008](#)
- [February 2008](#)
- [January 2008](#)
- [December 2007](#)
- [November 2007](#)
- [October 2007](#)
- [September 2007](#)
- [August 2007](#)
- [July 2007](#)
- [June 2007](#)
- [May 2007](#)
- [April 2007](#)
- [March 2007](#)
- [February 2007](#)
- [January 2007](#)

### Categories

Select Category ▼

[Blog at WordPress.com](#). [The Chateau Theme](#).

[Follow](#)

#### Follow “Kelly Tshibaka”

Get every new post delivered to your Inbox.

Join 904 other followers

Powered by [WordPress.com](#)

%d bloggers like this:



» About  
Resources  
Speaking

## Kelly Tshibaka

### ~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional

Search:



## Monthly Archives: May 2013

### Foursquare Convention Day 4

31 Friday May 2013

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [leadership](#), [ministry](#)  
≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

Tags

[Pastoring](#)

I made the most of today by doing what I couldn't do at home. I spent the morning with my dear friend, talking about life, ministry, and Foursquare. I said yes to serving when it was easier to say no. I listened to my friends' story about God's miracle in their marriage and his journey to being free from anger (which was rooted in fear). It renewed my enthusiasm for healing ministry, especially inner or soul healing.

We headed to the pool with some friends who are planting a church. We talked about discipling and church planting. They recommended a discipling book to us. I downloaded it and started to read it. It's good. And it momentarily discouraged me from continuing to write my book on discipling, "What more could you ask?" The little voice in my head screamed, Niki encouraged me and The Lord reminded me-it doesn't matter how I feel or what I think about myself. It's about helping others and being obedient. Or as one pastor quipped this week, "I'd trade a ton of opinion for an ounce of obedience."

Last night was dinner out. For what it's worth, I prefer Texas Roadhouse to Logan's. Then we walked around the lake in the evening breeze. And got to see Jeremy, who I enjoy and admire so much, and had a brief chat with him and his dad.

And poignant thought of the day:

"They aren't gonna care who you are until they know that you care about them" (Roosevelt High School football coach)



Share this:

- [Facebook](#)
- [Twitter](#)
- [LinkedIn](#)
- [Pinterest](#)
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### Foursquare Convention Day 3

30 Thursday May 2013

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [leadership](#), [ministry](#)  
≈ [1 Comment](#)

Tags

[Pastoring](#)

We had breakfast with our mentor and friend, Daniel Brown. What more could I say but that he's the real deal. He lives what he believes, and he moves others to live like Jesus too. Tim and Susan May joined us-I'm proud to call them my brother and sister. They've been in the trenches with me, done battle for me, refreshed and encouraged us, and gave us significant financial and moral support as an early church plant. This was much needed time together to simply enjoy life.

Dr. Henry Cloud spoke this morning. I love the way he practically applies biblical truth. There's only a couple books I hand out prescriptively to help people, and his book *Boundaries* is one of them. It makes the Bible helpful in the area of interpersonal relationships. The part of his talk this morning that resonated with me was about monkeys-they found that monkeys in high stress environments experience a 50% drop in stress when a monkey buddy is put in the cage with them. The stress factors don't change, but the simple fact of not being alone changes everything.

"So who's your monkey?"

I love that. And the fact that I have a lot of monkeys in my cage with me, thanks to Field Ministry Academy. And one of my favorite things about convention is getting to connect with lots of FMAs. It's like a big monkey party.

Kimberly Dirmann spoke and reminded me of the beauty of Psalm 27 and how I'm walking now in the fulfillment of promises from that passage given to me in 2010. If all of this ends-all this ministry, business, the gifts, everything-is Jesus enough for me? Am I fulfilled by just Him? If not, then what am I really doing all this for anyway? Profound questions to consider.

Then there was a lengthy business meeting. Some of the things considered were expanding the board of the denomination and allowing pastors to vote for Foursquare's president by absentee ballot. Suffice it to say that my vote on these topics is informed by my belief that people should be as empowered as possible-Empowered to have their voice heard, regardless of location, financial resources, or sociological dynamics that inherently squish voices rather than make room for them.

Later that day we had dinner with Phil and Emily, who are planting a like-minded church in Atlanta. Chris and Jen also joined us. Even though they juggled taking 4 kids on a bus that arrived 40 minutes late and saw them alone at a time we could talk. And it happened! So I apologized for what I did and said I cared too much about this person to let our relationship continue to be awkward. While the person couldn't identify anything I did and didn't realize things were awkward, we both agreed that we didn't want weirdness between us.

The evening was simply lovely. It really challenged me, again, to be slow to anger and rich in love, and it gave me an example of what that looks like.

Share this:

- [Facebook](#)
- [Twitter](#)
- [LinkedIn](#)
- [Pinterest](#)
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### Foursquare Convention Day 2

29 Wednesday May 2013

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [leadership](#), [ministry](#)  
≈ [1 Comment](#)

Tags

[Pastoring](#)

Day 2 of Convention brought a lot of answered prayers. I started with breakfast with a close friend and ministry ally-I prayed for time together because it's so rare for us to find that time, even on the same. We shared life developments and celebrated them together because we've prayed for these things for each other. And we celebrated to this, but I don't know what it is. I prayed I get to see this ministry, and see them alone at a time we could talk. And it happened! So I apologized for what I did and said I cared too much about this person to let our relationship continue to be awkward. While the person couldn't identify anything I did and didn't realize things were awkward, we both agreed that we didn't want weirdness between us.

And God had put a word on my heart for a pastor who is facing a big decision. I prayed I would see him and have an opportunity to share it. And that happened, too! Love love love opportunities to sustain the weary with just a word.

We also had a most encouraging and unexpected lunch with Burt Smith, a straight-shootin' action-takin' leader. And a short but meaningful talk with Ted Val (about out to Ted!). He's like a modern day Barnabas, encouraging and inspiring us to do greater Kingdom building and greater loving of people. Every time I hear him, I'm spurred to greater love and good deeds.

Last night we heard wisdom from Jerry Cook. My takeaways were 1) God is in me, with me, wherever I go, 2) just do it, and 3) lives will change, people will be healed, simply by virtue of the fact that I'm there because God is in me. In other words, if I'm there, Jesus is there. What a sobering and exciting truth, straight from Ephesians 1.

Share this:

- [Facebook](#)
- [Twitter](#)
- [LinkedIn](#)
- [Pinterest](#)
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### Foursquare convention at Disney World – Day One

28 Tuesday May 2013

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [leadership](#), [ministry](#), [personal](#)  
≈ [1 Comment](#)

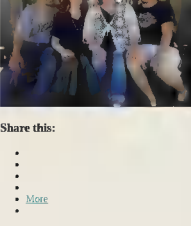
Tags

[Pastoring](#)

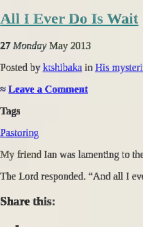
The day started with a jog, prayer, and worship outside on Disney grounds. I imagine passerby thought it was weird when I was raising my hands to praise Jesus, but I just thought of David dancing in his underwear and I chose not to care. What an amazing way to start the day!



I meditated on our church mission as a lighthouse. I remembered a word given to me at ordination about how I was a lighthouse for others.



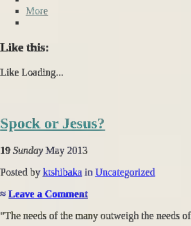
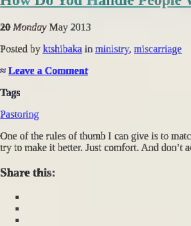
I thought about Deborah the judge and how her ministry has affected me lately. I reflected on how first Timothy 4 says to commit yourself to the gifts and ministry prophesied over you. And I thought about the many times in the last eight months people have prophesied Deborah's ministry over me. She sat under a palm tree, so I had many occasions to reflect on those prophecies this morning.



We saw our dear friends Josh and April! She was the most faithful attendee at our women's Bible study that was a precursor to our church plant. They aren't Christians, but they are wonderful friends. They love big and live life fully! And they encourage us to do the same.

And then we chatted with our dear friend and disciple, Daniel Brown. He really gets the most out of life-and he gives it, too. Every time I'm with him I feel freshly inspired and strengthened.

We ended the day with a much needed date night. Niki and I are such people-people that we need to re-charge just by having down time together. That way we can really pour the most into others. So we try to diligently set aside regular time together (and we rely heavily on extremely gracious and loving family and friends to watch them-THANK YOU MOM!). And an awesome date night it was!



Share this:

- [Facebook](#)
- [Twitter](#)
- [LinkedIn](#)
- [Pinterest](#)
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### All I Ever Do Is Wait

27 Monday May 2013

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [His mysterious ways](#), [spiritual truths](#)  
≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

Tags

[Pastoring](#)

My friend Ian was lamenting to the Lord about some promises he's been waiting on for a long time. "All I ever do is wait!" he cried out with frustration.

The Lord responded. "And all I ever do is come through."

Share this:

- [Facebook](#)
- [Twitter](#)
- [LinkedIn](#)
- [Pinterest](#)
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### How Do You Handle People Who Are Grieving

26 Monday May 2013

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [ministry](#), [miscellaneous](#)  
≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

Tags

[Pastoring](#)

One of the rules of thumb I can give is to match the level of relationship. In other words, if they're close, then be close now. Talk, cry, be silent together, grieve with them, contend for them. Don't try to make it better. Just comfort. And don't act weird, pull away, or offer platitudes that hurt more than help. Always bring hope. Love big. Those are the principles I stick to in times like this.

Share this:

- [Facebook](#)
- [Twitter](#)
- [LinkedIn](#)
- [Pinterest](#)
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### Walking on water and slaying giants

17 Friday May 2013

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [ministry](#), [my spiritual journey](#), [spiritual truths](#), [stories from a pioneer church](#)  
≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

Tags

[Pastoring](#), [Pioneering](#)

Over the last several years, I often come back to the Casting Crowns song *Voice of Truth*. For me it contains prayers that mark my spiritual journey.

Oh what I would do to have the kind of faith it takes to climb out of this boat I'm in, into the crashing waves. That was my prayer when we were considering planting the church. And it was my prayer as God led me into deeper and harder parts of ministry. Places I wanted to go, but places that were hard to go. "God, I want to walk on water. I want to know what it is like to be in the middle of the miraculous, the middle of the impossible, standing only by faith in you." The church was planted! The challenges were overcome! And I have indeed seen the miraculous.

Oh what I would do to have the kind of faith it takes to stand before a giant, with just a sling and a stone. But the giant's calling out my name and he laughs at me. Reminding me of all the times I've tried before and failed. The giant keeps on telling me time and time again you'll never win.

But I slayed that giant. It was scary, it was hard, and it took more from me than I ever imagined. But I fought the good fight, and I stood my ground, and the stone was just the right size to bring the giant to the ground!

I will soar with wings of eagles when I stop and listen to the sound of Jesus singing over me!

I'm sure there are more waves to come. I'm sure there are more giants to slay. But for now I am excitedly believing the Voice of Truth. I am joyously embracing the different story. I am embracing this season of not being afraid!

I love how Jesus gives us life – Not just life after we die, but life right now here on earth. We've gone through seasons where we feel like the walking dead. Like there's no hope, or life is drained by fear. Looking back, I can see how our tiny bits of faith and our perseverance to just keep keeping on have led to this time, this time of answered prayers, this time of living life abundantly without fear and without fight.

Jesus, thank you for answering those song-based prayers over the years, and thank you for being my Voice of Truth.

Share this:

- [Facebook](#)
- [Twitter](#)
- [LinkedIn](#)
- [Pinterest](#)
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### How Do You Become a Pastor?

15 Wednesday May 2013

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [Church](#), [discipling](#), [leadership](#), [ministry](#), [stories from a pioneer church](#)  
≈ [1 Comment](#)

Tags

[Pastoring](#)

We look for people who are faithful, accountable, teachable and actively & consistently serving others. Our philosophy is that licensing simply recognizes the pastoring that someone already is doing.

So we don't use licensing to make pastors, we license people who are already pastoring.

Share this:

- [Facebook](#)
- [Twitter](#)
- [LinkedIn](#)
- [Pinterest](#)
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### Then There Were Two

13 Monday May 2013

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [discipling](#), [kid stories](#), [raising kids](#)  
≈ [1 Comment](#)

Tags

[Parenting](#), [Pastoring](#)



Niki told me that on the drive to school, Burton asked him, "Daddy, when we are in the car with you, can you please not listen to the news? We would like to spend this time talking with you instead."

Niki said he was so impressed with how maturely she handled herself. "She sounded just like you," he said. Then he smiled and rolled his eyes. "Then there were two!"

Share this:

- [Facebook](#)
- [Twitter](#)
- [LinkedIn](#)
- [Pinterest](#)
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

← Older posts

### Follow Blog

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 904 other followers

### Recent Posts

- [Being Blind and Carrying Car Keys](#)
- [More Relationships...](#)
- [Another Open Letter to President Obama](#)
- [You Can't Make This Up](#)
- [Burton's Take on Birth Control](#)

### Archives

- [October 2013](#)
- [September 2013](#)
- [August 2013](#)
- [June 2013](#)
- [May 2013](#)
- [April 2013](#)
- [March 2013](#)
- [February 2013](#)
- [January 2013](#)
- [December 2012](#)
- [November 2012](#)
- [October 2012](#)
- [September 2012](#)
- [August 2012](#)
- [July 2012](#)
- [June 2012](#)
- [May 2012](#)
- [April 2012](#)
- [March 2012](#)
- [January 2012](#)
- [December 2011](#)
- [November 2011](#)
- [October 2011](#)
- [September 2011](#)
- [August 2011](#)
- [July 2011](#)
- [April 2011](#)
- [March 2011](#)
- [February 2011](#)
- [January 2011](#)
- [December 2010](#)
- [November 2010](#)
- [October 2010](#)
- [September 2010](#)
- [August 2010](#)
- [July 2010](#)
- [June 2010](#)
- [May 2010](#)
- [April 2010](#)
- [March 2010](#)
- [February 2010](#)
- [January 2010](#)
- [December 2009](#)
- [November 2009](#)
- [October 2009](#)
- [September 2009](#)
- [August 2009](#)
- [July 2009](#)
- [June 2009](#)
- [May 2009](#)
- [March 2009](#)
- [February 2009](#)
- [January 2009](#)
- [December 2008](#)
- [November 2008](#)
- [October 2008](#)
- [September 2008](#)
- [August 2008](#)
- [July 2008](#)
- [June 2008](#)
- [May 2008](#)
- [April 2008](#)
- [March 2008](#)
- [February 2008](#)
- [January 2008](#)
- [December 2007](#)
- [November 2007](#)
- [October 2007](#)
- [September 2007](#)
- [August 2007](#)
- [July 2007](#)
- [June 2007](#)
- [May 2007](#)
- [April 2007](#)
- [March 2007](#)
- [February 2007](#)
- [January 2007](#)

### Categories

[Blog at WordPress.com](#). [The Chateau Theme](#).

[Follow](#)

### Follow "Kelly Tshibaka"

Get every new post delivered to your Inbox.

Join 904 other followers

Powered by [WordPress.com](#)

96 bloggers like this:

- Resources
- Speaking

## Kelly Tshibaka

### ~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional

Search:



## Monthly Archives: April 2012

### The Kids Want a Bunny.

29 Sunday Apr 2012

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [kid stories](#), [raising kids](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

This past weekend the kids went to a birthday party in which a traveling petting zoo was featured — ponies, llamas, bunnies, and other cute fuzzy animals. Totally awesome party and great idea. But it has resulted in a days-long “pet campaign” sponsored by a super party PAC that rivals Obama’s: our adorable children.

I can almost bear the chaos in my sleep: WE WANT A PET!

Niki and I are not so open to this idea. Sounds like just another time, cleaning, and financial responsibility we just don’t want to assume. So the kids are lobbying hard.

On the way to school, they took it up with Niki. Now, for some context for this conversation, please note that “Papa” is my dad, a stereotypical wild Alaska outdoor man — live off the land, eat what you kill, light a fire with a single wet match, avoid people. You get the idea.

So, here it goes:

Barton: “Dad, Siah and I really want a pet. We want a rabbit. They are so cute and cuddly. And really soft. We’ve been really responsible lately, so we should get a pet.”

Niki: “A rabbit? We can’t get a rabbit. If we get a rabbit, we’ll kill it and eat it. Rabbits aren’t pets, they’re food.”

Barton (totally indignant): “We are NOT eating a rabbit! That is so wrong! We don’t EAT pets! Dad, think of it like this, a rabbit costs \$50. Say you and Mom buy us 4 bunnies. Then when they grow up to rabbits, Siah and I kill them. That’s \$200 of rabbit! You would be so mad. And y’know why? Because you and Mom could buy rabbit meat for a lot less than that at the store. That’s why we DON’T EAT PETS!”

Siah (equally indignant): “Yeah, Dad. What if you and Mom got a cute little puppy for your anniversary? And then when it got older, Sissy and I killed it and ate it and threw its bones in the sewer? You wouldn’t like that very much, WOULD YOU???”

Barton: “That’s right, Dad. We don’t kill pets. And we don’t eat them either. [Short pause] ...And when Papa comes to visit, WE’RE GONNA HAVE TO HIDE THE BUNNY!!!!”

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- More

Like this:

Like Loading...

### Taking Them Where They Don’t Want to Go

27 Friday Apr 2012

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [disciplog](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

Discipling isn’t taking people where they want to go; it’s taking them someplace new, different, even hard, for the purpose of accomplishing something great.

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- More

Like this:

Like Loading...

### Things That Make Me Go Hmmm

25 Wednesday Apr 2012

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [His mysterious ways](#), [my spiritual journey](#), [spiritual truths](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

Check out Luke 4: Jesus had lots of big speaking engagements. He was “praised by all.” “All were speaking well of Him.” And then He essentially pokes His whole fan club in the eye: I’m only picking one or two of you sorry people. (Luke 4:24-27). And with that comment, “fan club” becomes “rage club” and they tried to throw Him off a cliff. But He passed through their midst and went His way.

Then there was another crowd that was amazed. And He got up and left.

And then a crowd followed Him to Simon’s home. He spent the evening healing them. Then He struck off to a secluded place.

The crowds kept on pursuing Him, and “tried to keep Him from going away from them,” but He left and kept on preaching.

It then says He would “often slip away to the wilderness and pray.”

Seems like Jesus was more interested in ditching the crowds than pursuing them. What big-time, apostolic, ministry preacher/teacher has time to “often” slip away? Or, for that matter, what small-time, local church pastor has that kind of time?

Could you imagine some Francis Chan or Joyce Meyer type standing before thousands and saying something as offensive as “only one of you people matters to me”? So much for your world-renowned public speaking tour, your influence, your success...

The crowds found Him, despite His efforts to hide or manage the PR buzz. He’d show up pretty consistently in the synagogue to teach, and then disappear.

Makes me think about the things I value and am pursuing. Right now, I’ve got a lot of ability to slip away and pray. I mean, it’s not like crowds are following me, begging me not to leave them. But, candidly, I’d like them to. Reading this section of scripture highlighted for me that my secret dream (circumlocution, speaking engagements galore, fan club, etc.) really runs counter to Jesus’ secret dream (peace, quiet, seclusion, prayer). Hmm.

It’s not that He didn’t speak, teach, preach. It’s not that He lacked influence. It’s not He was unsuccessful. But He didn’t seem to pursue or seek these things. They just happened. And He seems to check out the crowds and fan clubs as a vocational hazard — almost like “one of the downsides of being the Messiah is all these crowds; I’d really just rather be anonymous and have time with my Dad again.”

Makes me think. *Seek first the kingdom of God, and all these things will be added unto you...* Maybe my heart should be more set on spending time with Jesus than on working for Him?

And how does this align with God giving us the desires of our heart?

More humm’ing.

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- More

Like this:

Like Loading...

### Gotcha! Day

24 Tuesday Apr 2012

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [adoption](#), [kid stories](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

Today is Gotcha Day — the day little Joseph came into our lives. The day we held him for the first time. The day we were tangibly touched by the heart of the gospel message: *He has given us a spirit of adoption, by which we cry out ‘Abba, Father!’*

People say we’ve done something so great, so loving, so benevolently kind. Ha ha! What a joke! Actually, what I’ve learned is that something great, loving, and benevolently kind has been done to US! I’m absolutely convinced that Joseph is God’s son, chosen by Him, predestined for great works from before time. And for some great, loving, kind reason, God’s chosen to grace us with him, with the responsibility of giving him all we can so he can grow up to be the person God’s made him to be. What an honor, privilege, joy, and delight. *Who am I, and who is my family, that You would think of us for this?*

Joseph, I’ve wanted you since I was 3 years old. You have always held, and always will hold, a special place in my heart that no one else can fill. Because of you, I am *blessed above all women*. I thank God for you, and for this date — because it marks one of the best days of my life.

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- More

Like this:

Like Loading...

### A Disciple’s First Sermon

23 Monday Apr 2012

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [Uncategorized](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

Favorite quote on Sunday, from Abigail’s first sermon: “I know you love me so I don’t have to be too worried about messing up.” YES. That’s IT! That’s how effective discipling makes disciples feel — it’s the same way Jesus makes us feel: it’s ok if I mess up because I know You love me.

We only get better (perfect) if we practice! We can only practice if it’s ok for us to make mistakes. Jesus makes it ok. And so do we.

Way to go, Abigail!

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- More

Like this:

Like Loading...

### Silly but It Hurts

22 Sunday Apr 2012

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [personal](#)

≈ [1 Comment](#)

You know what hurts?

When “friends” de-friend you on Facebook or when followers de-follow your blog for some unknown reason.

Small and silly, but it hurts.

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- More

Like this:

Like Loading...

### God Did This

21 Saturday Apr 2012

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [my spiritual journey](#), [spiritual truths](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

Recently told Fred what God revealed to me — that He was the one behind all the suffering I experienced last year. Fred looked at me with disbelief and a bit of horror, I think. It’s hard to wrap your head around how a good God can let such terrible things happen to you, especially if you love Him and follow Him.

A friend passed on this devotional, and it captures beautifully some of my thoughts on it. If you’re suffering — hold on. Beauty will come of it!

The hand of the LORD has done this ([Job 1:2-9](#))  
A number of years ago the most magnificent diamond in the history of the world was found in an African mine. It was then presented to the king of England to embellish his crown of state. The king sent it to Amsterdam to be cut by an expert stonecutter. Can you imagine what he did with it?

He took this gem of priceless value and cut a notch in it. Then he struck it one hard time with his hammer, and the majestic jewel fell into his hand, broken in two. What recklessness! What wastefulness! What criminal carelessness!

Actually, that is not the case at all. For you see, that one blow with the hammer had been studied and planned for days, and even weeks. Drawings and models had been made of the gem. Its quality, defects, and possible lines along which it would split had all been studied to the smallest detail. And the man to whom it was entrusted was one of the most skilled stonecutters in the world.

Now do you believe that blow was a mistake? No, it was the capstone and the culmination of the stonecutter’s skill. When he struck that blow, he did the one thing that would bring that gem to its most perfect shape, radiance, and jeweled splendor. The blow that seemed to be the ruin of the majestic precious stone was actually its perfect redemption, for from the halves were fashioned two magnificent gems. Only the skilled eye of the expert stonecutter could have seen the beauty of two diamonds hidden in the rough, uncut stone as it came from the mine.

Sometimes, in the same way, God lets a stinging blow fall on your life. You bleed, feeling the pain, and your soul cries out in agony. At first you think the blow is an appalling mistake. But it is not, for you are the most precious jewel in the world to God. And He is the most skilled stonecutter in the universe.

Someday you are to be a jewel adorning the crown of the King. As you lie in His hand now, He knows just how to deal with you. Not one blow will be permitted to fall on your apprehensive soul except what the love of God allows. And you may be assured that from the depths of the experience, you will see untold blessings, and spiritual enrichment you have never before imagined. *J. H. M.*

In one of George MacDonald’s books, one of the characters makes this bitter statement: “I wonder why God made me. I certainly don’t see any purpose in it!” Another of the characters responds, “Perhaps you don’t see any purpose yet, but then, He isn’t finished making you. And besides, you are arguing with the process.”

If people would only believe they are still in the process of creation, submit to the Maker, allowing Him to handle them as the potter handles clay, and yield themselves in one shining, deliberate action to the turning of His wheel, they would soon find themselves able to welcome every pressure from His hand on them, even if it results in pain. And sometimes they should not only believe but also have God’s purpose in sight: “bringing many sons to glory” ([Heb 2:10](#)).

*Not a single blow can hit, Not the God of love sees fit,*

*Sent from the Streams in the Desert Devotional. For devotionals like this one for your iPhone, visit us at [s3drfleming.com](#)*

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- More

Like this:

Like Loading...

### More Pastor’s Thoughts: What I Don’t Want to Admit

19 Thursday Apr 2012

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [ministry](#), [stories from a pioneer church](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

If we move fully into what God has called us to do and really focus on training our people to become fully equipped ministers within 4 years, I’m afraid we’ll lose nearly everything. Will we have anything to show for our efforts? What if we’re bearing God wrong and all these other churches are right? Or what if we’re bearing Him right but we fail to execute it well? It’s hard to admit this, but it seems safer, and better, to settle for “good enough” than to really go for it.

We have to regularly fight our fear of losing people in order to stay focused on what we are called to do. But when we step out in faith and push towards Sunday services that are more like practitioners than speaking performances, we are described as “radical” and people (including leaders) threaten to leave. Sometimes we’re more successful at battling that fear than other times, but it remains a constant tension.

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- More

Like this:

Like Loading...

### Inside a Pastor’s Thoughts: The Struggle Over Numbers

17 Tuesday Apr 2012

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [ministry](#), [stories from a pioneer church](#)

≈ [1 Comment](#)

I realize we’re not supposed to be really concerned about losing people. It’s hard to think that way, though, when our culture values your influence, effectiveness, and credibility in ministry based on the number of people you reach. The most common question people ask me about our church is, “How many people attend?” Every week we are expected to report the number of people in attendance. In fact, from Peter’s first sermon after Pentecost, we’ve been counting people.

We have to regularly fight our fear of losing people in order to stay focused on what we are called to do. But when we step out in faith and push towards Sunday services that are more like practitioners than speaking performances, we are described as “radical” and people (including leaders) threaten to leave. Sometimes we’re more successful at battling that fear than other times, but it remains a constant tension.

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- More

Like this:

Like Loading...

← Older posts

Search:

### Follow Blog

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 904 other followers

### Recent Posts

- [Belong Blind and Carrying Car Keys](#)
- [More relational...](#)
- [Another Open Letter to President Obama](#)
- [You Can’t Make This Up](#)
- [Barton’s Take on Birth Control](#)

### Archives

- October 2013
- [September 2013](#)
- August 2013
- June 2013
- May 2013
- April 2013
- March 2013
- February 2013
- January 2013
- December 2012
- November 2012
- October 2012
- September 2012
- August 2012
- July 2012
- June 2012
- May 2012
- April 2012
- March 2012
- January 2012
- December 2011
- November 2011
- October 2011
- September 2011
- August 2011
- July 2011
- April 2011
- March 2011
- February 2011
- January 2011
- December 2010
- November 2010
- October 2010
- September 2010
- August 2010
- July 2010
- June 2010
- May 2010
- April 2010
- March 2010
- February 2010
- January 2010
- December 2009
- November 2009
- October 2009
- September 2009
- August 2009
- July 2009
- June 2009
- May 2009
- March 2009
- February 2009
- January 2009
- December 2008
- November 2008
- October 2008
- September 2008
- August 2008
- July 2008
- June 2008
- May 2008
- April 2008
- March 2008
- February 2008
- January 2008
- December 2007
- November 2007
- October 2007
- September 2007
- August 2007
- July 2007
- June 2007
- May 2007
- April 2007
- March 2007
- February 2007
- January 2007

### Categories

Select Category

Blog at WordPress.com. [The Chateau Theme](#).

[Follow](#)

### Follow “Kelly Tshibaka”

Get every new post delivered to your Inbox.

Join 904 other followers

Powered by [WordPress.com](#)

%d bloggers like this:



- [About](#)
- [Resources](#)
- [Speaking](#)

## Kelly Tshibaka

### ~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional



## Monthly Archives: June 2010

### [Madison, Wisconsin](#)

28 Monday Jun 2010

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [kid stories](#), [personal](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

We planned to spend a whole day in Madison. We reserved rooms at an extra special hotel (with an extra Special price) just because it had an indoor water park. The plan was to spend most the day at the pool. After all, a little bit of ice cream and a lot of swimming pool time makes for a perfect vacation for kids!

We started out the morning venturing around Madison. What a neat little city! The heart of the city – the capital and downtown– is built on an isthmus between two incredible lakes. We walked around the main street downtown (all the shops were closed because I guess Mondays are closed in Madison). And we got breakfast at Cusi (they have amazing oatmeal fixins, by the way!). We saw both lakes. And we drove out to an art co-op where local artisans sell their pieces so I could get a Christmas ornament (or find something cool to turn into a Christmas ornament). But it was closed, too – after all, it's Monday – and so that was a bust.

Then we headed back to the hotel. And the afternoon was dedicated to swimming. I sat with Joseph while he slept and Niki played with the kids on the water slide and the pirate ship. About an hour into it all, Niki and Button came over to the whirlpool to rest. She was tired because of all the chlorine. Not more than 5 minutes later, we returned to hear Shiah shrieking over by the life guards. Over half his face was covered in blood. Turned out he was walking about the ship and nailed a cannon with his nose and eye.

I went into emergency mode and invoked all my EMT/Paramedic training from over a decade ago. It seemed clear the lifeguards weren't exactly sure what to do. I cleaned up his face, got ice on him, dressed the gash in his head, and raided their first aid kit. Step back people and give me your medical kit!!!

Next event was taking Shiah to the hospital. He ended up needing stitches, but we were able to opt for gluing it together. He was a real champ, though during parts of it he was quite scared: "A hospital is no place for a little guy, Mama!"

AGH.

Dinner was lovely – we sat in a beautifully designed outdoor patio at a restaurant owned by a local Wisconsin root beer company. SO FUN. Had I not been so drained, I would have sat there all night.

And now it's time to relax. Finally. I am so emotionally drained from the whole thing. Hopefully we'll have a better time at the NEXT water park!

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### [The Great American Family Adventure – Day 2 \\*WARNING- KARATE KID SPOILER\\*](#)

27 Sunday Jun 2010

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [kid stories](#), [movie](#), [personal](#), [raising kids](#)

≈ [1 Comment](#)

So we went to see Notre Dame – the kids in their jammies with scruffy hair and all. A couple impressions: kind of a simple campus. Not what I was expecting. It's amazing what a solid academic program, stellar football team, and enthusiastic alumni can do for a school's reputation. The thing I liked the most were the Bible verses inscribed on campus buildings. Also loved the basnage statue of Moses. The kids saw him first – they were excited to get their picture with him!

Then we went out to dinner and, as is common in college towns, there was a fair amount of college students there. Whenever I'm around college students, I feel really drawn to them. Almost like there's a part of my ministry heart/focus area that I have not yet realized. Not that it's time to now. It's kinda like the same feeling I have about our family – we have 5 kids, but our family doesn't feel complete yet. I know there's more to come. And I often feel like when we're together as a family, something's missing. That's kinda how I feel around college students – like they're a missing part of my life. But I don't know yet how they "fit in." If that makes any sense...

Got up the next morning, hit Sonic (big smile!), and drove through a torrential rain storm, through the city of Chicago, and through the rolling fields of Wisconsin to Madison. Yesterday consisted of family movie day and going out to eat.

We saw Karate Kid – which would more aptly be named "Kung Fu Kid." It was a good movie! So premise is underdog kid encounters bad kids who are good at karate. And then there's the big tournament at the end where the underdog beats all the bad kids. Then all the bad kids have a change of heart and decide to leave their sinister master and join the underdog's master. At the end of the movie, we asked the kids what their favorite parts were. Button's favorite part was when the good kid defeated the bad kid. Shiah's favorite part was when the bad kid had a change of heart and gave the trophy to the good kid, and when all the bad kids left the bad coach for the good coach. In their responses I saw a glimpse of how God wired them and how He will use them during their lifetimes – Button is passionate about justice and retribution; get the bad guys! She is a fighter, a deliverer, a warrior. Shiah is passionate about redemption: may all bad people be saved and turned good. He is a restorer, a healer, a man of compassion. And oh, how I love them both!

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### [A Verse for Me](#)

26 Saturday Jun 2010

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [my spiritual journey](#), [spiritual truths](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

Sometimes you read the Bible and verses pop off the page and speak to you. Other times you read it and verses pop off the page and change your life — it's like you come across a verse that seems like it was written just for you. This is one for me, and I'm in the process of meditating on it heavily (there's a lot here). My prayer right now is, "Lord, give me an undivided heart."

Teach me your way, O Lord, and I will walk in your truth  
Give me an undivided heart, that I may fear your name  
I will praise you, O Lord my God, with all my heart  
I will joyfully praise you forever  
For great is your love toward me  
You delivered me from the depths of the grave  
Ps. 86:11-13

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### [The Great American Family Adventure Begins](#)

26 Saturday Jun 2010

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [personal](#), [raising kids](#)

≈ [3 Comments](#)

Today we embarked on a 2+ week great American adventure, with all three kids (ages 5 and under). We're road tripping through 11 states in somewhere between 2 and 3 weeks (our schedule is flexible). Our grand plan is to go to Minneapolis where we'll see a couple close friends and some family; celebrate the 4th of July (maybe lake style); and see the Mall of America. Ha ha ha – "Minnesota???", a friend asked. "Yeah... I saw a 'Visit Minnesota' ad and I was sold! Their tourism department really got me!" Ha ha ha. Seriously, though, the main objective was to see people we care about and to do something different for our family while we had the time to do so!

After Minnesota, we'll double back to Wisconsin and hit a super fabulous hotel/water park for several days. Then we're cruising down to Indiana. I don't really know what Indiana is known for, 'cept that my dad's mom was from here, and I hear they have fantastic fireflies. Fireflies and family – I'm sold! Plus, whoda think, but apparently Indianapolis is quite the place to visit!

After Indiana, we'll head down to Kentucky where we'll culminate with a leadership training conference we're leading – one that's Holy Spirit power-packed (in faith!). We'll see some more friends, maybe some extended family, and, of course, Kentucky.

So today we drove for like, double digit hours. I lost count. And by "we" I mean "I." The kids were all fantastic, though. And I enjoyed some solid uninterrupted prayer and scripture memorization time. Nothing like a black top and silence to really shut down my mind and make way for my spirit!

We hit 5 states today. And right now we're staying in Notre Dame's back yard. We needed a break, so we're watching the World Cup. Button is cheering for the U.S. Shiah is cheering for the "Champs" (I suspect I'm going to have a disappointed hubby tonight, looking at the 2-1 score). After this, I hope to go see the university, take some frameable pics, and then eat at Texas Roadhouse, one of my favorite restaurants! Think what you want — you can't take Texas outta the girl!

The kids are still in their jammies from last night. With "crazy hair" as Button calls it. I probably SHOULDNT'T take them out like this. But then again, it's fun for them and I'm on vacation. I can always get them up and ready tomorrow. : D

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

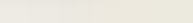
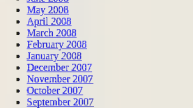
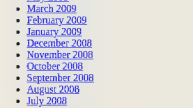
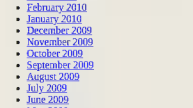
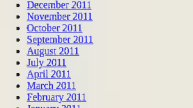
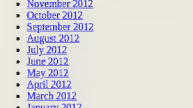
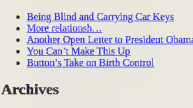
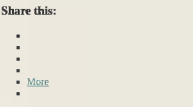
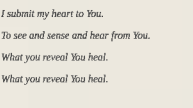
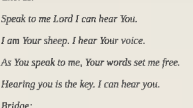
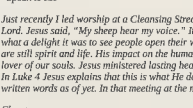
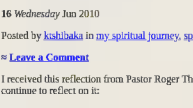
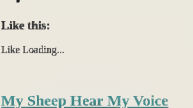
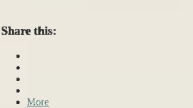
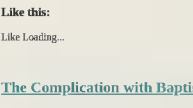
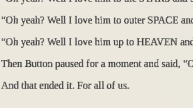
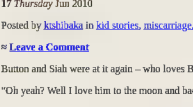
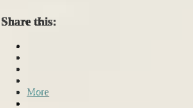
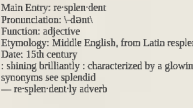
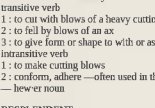
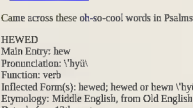
### [Photos of Joseph](#)

25 Friday Jun 2010

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [kid stories](#)

≈ [1 Comment](#)

Pictures of the baby who won our hearts before we even met him. He is so adorable!





- [About](#)
- [Resources](#)
- [Speaking](#)

## Kelly Tshibaka

### ~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional

Search:  Go



## Monthly Archives: July 2011

16 Saturday Jul 2011

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [His mysterious ways, my other day job, my spiritual journey, workplace ministry, worldly matters](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

We have become increasingly aware of how fundamentally spiritual this battle is—it plays out in the natural, but it is a spiritual battle. Since the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh, but divinely powerful for the destruction of fortresses, we are taking our battle plan cues from God (the best we can) and doing what He says when He says it.

The strategy has been changing over time—He gives us verses to guide us. For example, for awhile it was stand and don't move, then it was trust in the name of the Lord (which prompted me to do dive into the various names of the Lord and what they mean), and now it's sing His praises and be confident that we will overcome only by the blood of the Lamb (nothing on my own merit or effort).

We know it's spiritual, too, because it affects Niki spiritually as much as it affects me, even though the natural world circumstance only directly relates to me.

We have had some \*hard\* days—days of fear, doubt, or despair. Especially because things in the natural have gotten worse—the injustices and judgments against me have increased, and this battle still doesn't have an end in sight. But the Lord has strengthened our hearts and given us just what we needed when we needed it. For example, He has shown me that the reason this is taking so long is because He is involved, defending us from the enemy. Otherwise, this would have been done months ago, but I would not have been vindicated. Those who wait on the Lord will not be put to shame! But waiting takes time...

It has been eye opening, surprising, and encouraging to me how much my present circumstance parallels the situation Daniel found himself in before he was thrown in the lion's den, and what Paul described about his situation in Philippians 1. And Paul said that his imprisonment for Christ would turn out for his "deliverance through your prayers and the provision of the Spirit of Jesus Christ." In the same way, I believe that this will work out for my deliverance in large part because of others' prayers for me. So thank you so much for your prayers for us during this time!

And may it be "that with all boldness, Christ will even now, as always, be exalted in my body, whether by life or by death."

#### Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

#### Like this:

Like Loading...

## Rhubarb Scare

15 Friday Jul 2011

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [kid stories, raising kids](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

During our trip to Alaska, the kids were waiting on the 4-wheelers, ready for another adventure. As we were gearing up, Button told me that she had eaten part of "that plant over there." She thought it was funny, almost as funny as Siah's reaction when she gave it to him to eat and he was spitting it out all over the place.

But I didn't think it was funny. "Which plant, Button? Which plant?" What Button didn't know is that my mom grows rhubarb to make pies and jellies, and that the leaves of rhubarb plants are poisonous when ingested. She lifted up her arm and pointed right at the rhubarb plant. My heart dropped.

Think fast...think fast! We were out in the middle of nowhere—too far to get to a pharmacy in time to get medicine to make her vomit. I had to induce vomiting now, or take her to the ER.

I told her to go grab her toothbrush and bring it back outside. And right there in the woods of Alaska, I taught her how to trigger her gag reflex using her toothbrush and expel all the rhubarb leaves she had ingested. Crisis averted.

Man drowning, moose getting ready to charge, racing the dogs inside so the eagles don't swoop them up, poisonous plants...I just don't remember Alaska being this dangerous growing up...

#### Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

#### Like this:

Like Loading...

14 Thursday Jul 2011

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [Church, discipling](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

In response to our This Is Discipling video, I received a note from "a devout Roman Catholic."

She wrote, "My husband's family is Protestant and the hardest thing for me was the lack of discipleship. Their church was all about fun, fun, fun! Fun music, coffee bars, big productions, etc....and I never understood where the learning happened? Where the formation happened? I always took Advent season, Lent, and Easter very seriously and for my in-laws it was always about the great choir production at Christmas, the drive through nativity scene, the Passion Play production or the Easter egg hunt. Church was the social place. Church was the place to dress up and look better than your neighbor, church for them was the place they were entertained. But, for me it has always been a holy place. A place I genuflect out of respect because I believe God is present. A place where I learn to be a better Christian. A place I can heal because I am not SAVED just because I say so. I am only saved by living and believing in Christ every day. That my church is a hospital for sinners, not an entertainment venue."

What profound insights and observations! I also have had those experiences in churches. I think it's a challenge endemic to all Christians—the socio-cultural pull to appeal to a consumer-based American mentality. I've seen it across denominations, and I've also seen effective discipleship happening across denominations. And that's because the enemy doesn't limit his attacks to certain denominations, nor does Jesus want disciples from only certain denominations.

#### Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

#### Like this:

Like Loading...

## Discipleship Resources

13 Wednesday Jul 2011

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [discipling, recommendations](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

I received an email inquiring about discipleship resources that might help provide some background on how to develop a discipleship culture.

The first resource I recommend is to study what the Bible says about disciples/discipling. You'll get a lot out of just doing that, especially early on before your ideas are strongly influenced by Christian sub-cultures.

Second, the primary materials that shaped the way I think about and do discipling are the teachings and writings from Dr. Daniel Brown. His website is [crw.coastlands.org](#). Check out The Other Side of Pastoral Ministry, How to Mobilize Your Church, One-to-One Ministry, Highly Effective Discipleship, Church with Attitude, Process Leadership, and Raising More Leaders.

#### Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

#### Like this:

Like Loading...

## Reflections on Endurance

05 Tuesday Jul 2011

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [spiritual truths](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

*We count those blessed who endured. You have heard of the endurance of Job and have seen the outcome of the Lord's dealings, that the Lord is full of compassion and is merciful.* James 5:11

A significant component of the Christian walk is simply enduring. Get up, don't quit, go to bed. Repeat. Again. And again.

One foot in front of the other doesn't make for a very dramatic race, but it does get you down the road of endurance.

And we count those blessed who endured. I don't ever really want to go through what they've gone through (just being honest), but I do want the blessings and life they have at the end of the road of endurance. I look at these enduring ones, and I see great hope, joy, peace, and fruit from their labors. They know Jesus in a way that I want to know Him. They are filled with fruit of the Spirit. In short, I want to grow up to be like them.

Romans 5 recounts for us what we get from endurance — proven character and a hope that does not disappoint. What great treasure! I want that! But Romans 5 says there's only one way to get it—tribulation.

In the middle of tribulation, it brings comfort and strength to reflect on the truth in this verse from James—by keeping in mind the outcomes of the Lord's dealings in other saint's lives, we can take comfort in knowing that He will work our tribulations for good, too. It's His nature—He is full of compassion and merciful.

Job really we

#### Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

#### Like this:

Like Loading...

## Lessons in Fishing (for men) from an Alaskan Fishing Trip

05 Tuesday Jul 2011

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [ministry, spiritual truths](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

"It's called fishing, not catching. Most the time you don't catch anything. But when you do, it's really exciting!" said the rugged Alaskan outdoorsman.

What a statement on what it's like to be a Christian—you share the Gospel, love, serve, give...and most the time you don't see much come from your efforts. It's hard work. And like Button, who had about 20 minutes of fishing in her before she passed out asleep in the boat, we are all inclined to just "put the pole down." God knew this, though. Which is probably why He encouraged us to not grow weary in doing good for there is a reward for our work.

The best fish are usually towards the bottom. So you've gotta get a weight on your line that's heavy enough to get your hook down there. Same thing for believers—you're going to be a better fisher-of-men if you've got more weight or substance to your faith, character, and application of biblical truth.

Fishing—whether for fish or for men—takes a lot of patience and perseverance. Just keep trying, don't give up.

And the lure is key—it's gotta look like something the fish wants or it won't go for it. Same thing with fishing for men. Christians have to be appealing or people won't be interested in what they're saying, what they're doing, or what they have to offer. Too often, Christians can be very unappealing (cliche-ish, rules-oriented, unkind, judgmental), rather than looking like Christ, exhibiting the fruit of the Spirit. The lure you use matters. As the Alaskan outdoorsman said, the fish are smart.

#### Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

#### Like this:

Like Loading...

## The Importance of Vowels

04 Monday Jul 2011

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [funny, kid stories](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

So my parents have these two dogs, Tootsie and Roll. My dad always has had creative names for our pets—we had two mutts once that he named Bonnie and Clyde. Any case, our kids have been quite taken with Tootsie and Roll. And they've also been a little sloppy with saying "Tootsie"'s name, and her nickname, "Toots." Instead, they've been replacing "oo" with "i", which makes for some very humorous off-color moments... I keep reminding them: It's tOOls!!

#### Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

#### Like this:

Like Loading...

## Alaska Adventures

02 Saturday Jul 2011

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [funny, personal](#)

≈ [3 Comments](#)

We have been in Alaska for 2 days now. And what a 2 days it's been. We went to see some friends in Fairbanks who are up here not too far from my parents, building a house in the middle of nowhere. It is the most beautiful nowhere you've ever seen, but it's still nowhere. So these friends are up here building a home, and some other friends are with them helping them out for a week or two.

We visited their worksite and had a blast. I loved watching the kids scramble around the construction site, mud ditch, and campfire. It reminded me so much of my childhood. And then...in a flash, Button ran over and picked up hot brisquets that were sitting on top of a Dutch oven cooking coffee cake. Her hand was pretty badly burned, but after a trip to the pharmacy, some Motrin, aloe, and gauze, she was doing better. By the grace of God, she's only got small blisters.

The next morning, before breakfast, while I was still in my pajamas, a guy fishing out in the lake fell out of his canoe and started to drown. He screamed out for help, but quickly lost all strength and the ability to cry out for help. His head was bobbing up and down in the water. It didn't look good. I raced out of the house barefoot and started untying the boat. Dad got the keys and started the engine, but it didn't start! For over 2 minutes we couldn't start the boat. I was praying and frantically using oars to try to row the boat out there. But he was nearly a quarter mile away and I wasn't making much progress. Finally the boat started and we got over there fast. We pulled the guy in—he could hardly breathe. And he wasn't moving much. Eventually he was able to sit up and breathe a little better. The ambulances came screaming down the road and met us back at the house, ready to take him to the hospital. He's gonna be ok (thank you, Lord!).

If that wasn't enough, later that day dad and I took the kids 4-wheeling and we suddenly came upon a mama moose and her calf. Normally, they would trot off. But not this moose—she was standing her ground, staring us down. And it didn't take much for her to begin hoofing the earth, hackles up, ready to charge. The kids were fascinated, and talking way too loudly for that moose's liking. Fortunately, we were able to back away slowly without any run-ins with the moose.

And I'm about ready for a vacation from this vacation. : D

#### Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

#### Like this:

Like Loading...

Search:  Go

## Follow Blog

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 904 other followers

## Recent Posts

- [Being Blind and Carrying Car Keys](#)
- [More relationship...](#)
- [Another Open Letter to President Obama](#)
- [You Can't Make This Up](#)
- [Button's Take on Birth Control](#)

## Archives

- [October 2013](#)
- [September 2013](#)
- [August 2013](#)
- [June 2013](#)
- [May 2013](#)
- [April 2013](#)
- [March 2013](#)
- [February 2013](#)
- [January 2013](#)
- [December 2012](#)
- [November 2012](#)
- [October 2012](#)
- [September 2012](#)
- [August 2012](#)
- [July 2012](#)
- [June 2012](#)
- [May 2012](#)
- [April 2012](#)
- [March 2012](#)
- [January 2012](#)
- [December 2011](#)
- [November 2011](#)
- [October 2011](#)
- [September 2011](#)
- [August 2011](#)
- [July 2011](#)
- [April 2011](#)
- [March 2011](#)
- [February 2011](#)
- [January 2011](#)
- [December 2010](#)
- [November 2010](#)
- [October 2010](#)
- [September 2010](#)
- [August 2010](#)
- [July 2010](#)
- [June 2010](#)
- [May 2010](#)
- [April 2010](#)
- [March 2010](#)
- [February 2010](#)
- [January 2010](#)
- [December 2009](#)
- [November 2009](#)
- [October 2009](#)
- [September 2009](#)
- [August 2009](#)
- [July 2009](#)
- [June 2009](#)
- [May 2009](#)
- [March 2009](#)
- [February 2009](#)
- [January 2009](#)
- [December 2008](#)
- [November 2008](#)
- [October 2008](#)
- [September 2008](#)
- [August 2008](#)
- [July 2008](#)
- [June 2008](#)
- [May 2008](#)
- [April 2008](#)
- [March 2008](#)
- [February 2008](#)
- [January 2008](#)
- [December 2007](#)
- [November 2007](#)
- [October 2007](#)
- [September 2007](#)
- [August 2007](#)
- [July 2007](#)
- [June 2007](#)
- [May 2007](#)
- [April 2007](#)
- [March 2007](#)
- [February 2007](#)
- [January 2007](#)

## Categories

Select Category ▾

Blog at WordPress.com. The Chateau Theme.

Follow

## Follow "Kelly Tshibaka"

Get every new post delivered to your Inbox.

Join 904 other followers

Powered by [WordPress.com](#)

%d bloggers like this:

- [Resources](#)
- [Speaking](#)

## Kelly Tshibaka

### ~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional



## Monthly Archives: *December 2010*

### Encouraging Note

30 *Thursday* Dec 2010

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [Notes for Pastor's Wife](#)

≡ [Leave a Comment](#)

A note from a friend:

I read through Psalm 27 this morning, and one thing that kept hitting me, is that God protects the reputation of the righteous. I know there is a verse in Proverbs that speaks directly to that, but I cannot remember it right now. I did find this, however, "He will make your righteous reward shine like the dawn, your vindication like the noonday sun." Ps 37:6. Actually, that whole chapter goes right along with Ps 27.

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

Like this:

Like Loading...

### Making the Invisible Become Visible

29 *Wednesday* Dec 2010

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [my spiritual journey, spiritual truths](#)

≡ [Leave a Comment](#)

*By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was not made out of things which are visible. (Heb. 11:3)*

Spiritual Law Seen Here: Things in the natural world are birthed first in the spiritual world. This is the essence of intercessory prayer. If you want to see something come to pass in the natural world, birth it in the spiritual world through fasting and prayer.

Reflection: I often lose sight of this spiritual principle and try to make things happen in the natural world simply by working and using things in the natural. This usually is futile. This verse has strengthened my faith for praying and interceding for BIG things to happen — things that are impossible! I'm identifying what it is I want to see, and then I'm praying it into existence. And it's working!

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

Like this:

Like Loading...

### oh no he didn't

23 *Thursday* Dec 2010

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [Uncategorized](#)

≡ [1 Comment](#)

I was talking to Niki about my recently acquired smile lines. I told him that I hoped he liked them and he would get to look at them the rest of his life and think, "my wife smiles a lot!"

He replied, "Yeah, or I could think, 'CAWW, CAWW!'!" (Making his best crow noise.)

And we were on a DATE at the time!!

Published with Blogger at 04:11:23

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

Like this:

Like Loading...

### Thoughts on Difficulty Breast Feeding

22 *Wednesday* Dec 2010

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [raising kids, women's topics](#)

≡ [1 Comment](#)

*I sent this to a friend who wrote to me about breast feeding complications and her grief over her inability to breast feed her baby. I'm sharing this for anyone else who has gone or is going through a similar situation. Take heart, dear mamas!*

Hi, dear dear friend,

A couple thoughts:

1. I am so so sorry. I relate to your grief and spiraling emotions. It's terrible. I wish I could be there to comfort you. To person.
2. This IS hard and you're not making it more than it is. Yes, you'll be fine and he'll be fine and it all will be fine. But right now, it's not fine. And that's ok. It's ok to not be fine. It's ok to be sad. It's ok to struggle through this.
3. Give yourself permission to NOT do hard things right now. NO decisions about giving away nursing things. NO decisions about kids in the future. Give yourself some space to grieve! As a side note, I didn't get rid of all my nursing stuff until over 3 years after I had our second child — and nursing went TERRIBLY with both of them. Can you put on your mental calendar that you'll revisit these objects in 2 years? And just not deal with it right now?
4. Your emotional condition is all consuming right now. And it's a "swirling vortex of drama" for you and for your husband. So yes, I understand your concern about what he might be thinking. But, a) he knows you and loves you and knows this isn't the real you; b) you've been through worse with him; c) this will fade into your memories as a historical fact and not as a thing to be dreaded — just like the pain of labor, you will remember this as fact but it won't affect your decision-making in the future like it's affecting it now. I remember telling Niki during my last labor, "if it had hurt this much last time, we wouldn't be here this time." And yet we've been pregnant since then and hope to be in the future. The trauma of this season will not have a lasting impact on you as a couple or as a family.
5. If you haven't already, talk to your husband and let him know where you're at, why you're grieving, what's going on hormonally (guys can understand mentally but have a hard time relating), and that you hope to be back to happy you again soon. And maybe touch on the issue of kids in the future, if you feel comfortable with that.
6. If your baby is gassy, colicky, or having odd stools, then try a different formula. Your mammy instincts could be right. They make a ton of different formulas for kids with different sensitivities. NO harm in trying. Our son really didn't respond well to one particular formula. Didn't eat as much, gave him tummy trouble, etc. But he did great on all the others.
7. DON'T BEAT YOURSELF UP. You have not done anything bad or wrong. You have not sinned. You have not failed. You have not neglected him as a mom. You DO know what you're doing. Every kid is different. For this baby, he needs to be bottle-fed. You made the right judgment call. Stick to your guns about setting the time aside to cuddle him during his feedings. And you're not wasting these days. This is part of your journey with him.
8. Happy mom = happy baby (and happy family). Prioritize whatever is going to make you happy right now — solid sleep, massage, quiet walk on the beach. Having been through severe post-partum depression and the disappointments of not being able to breast feed, I believe that it's more important for mom to be happy than for the baby to be breastfed. A smiling mom with a gentle and quiet spirit has a far greater positive impact on a baby (and your other kids) than breastmilk. What will help right now? Even if it's a small thing — prioritize it. God has a lot of grace for you in this time. His compassions for you are new every morning (and the morning starts at midnight!).

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

Like this:

Like Loading...

### Missing Granma and Papa

21 *Tuesday* Dec 2010

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [healing, personal](#)

≡ [1 Comment](#)

The other day I went through my Christmas list from last year (gifts we got people) just to make sure I didn't forget anybody. My grandparents were on the list. And it made me really, really sad to think that I had both of them last year — that it was my last Christmas with both of them — and I didn't know it. And sad that I don't have the opportunity to give either of them something for Christmas this season than ever before, and it's not even Christmas yet.

Makes me wanna cry.

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

Like this:

Like Loading...

### I'm Kissing Christmas Shopping Goodbye

21 *Tuesday* Dec 2010

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [my spiritual journey, personal, recommendations, worldly matters](#)

≡ [Leave a Comment](#)

I like giving at Christmas. It's in my DNA, really. Not only did I grow up in Alaska where Santa Claus lives, but also my mom gave lavishly (excessively?) every Christmas (my sister and I had 50-100 presents under the tree every year). So Christmas presents are a part of who I am. It's hard for me to imagine Christmas without them.

But it's also hard for me to imagine Christmas without stress, pressure, or a blown budget. And it's hard for me to imagine Christmas that's truly focused on Jesus and His birth. I've never had a Christmas like that.

Until this year.

This year, I've begun to change the way I celebrate Christmas. I did my first fast through the Advent season, which totally changed my spiritual barometer for the better and really helped me embrace Jesus as my Provider. And I decided to give more gifts to charity in people's honor than give them store-bought gifts. I have experienced more of Jesus and the wonder of His birth this Christmas season than ever before, and it's not even Christmas yet!

Then I learned about this movement called Advent Conspiracy. It's mission is to turn Christmas back into a holiday where we Worship Fully, Spend Less, Give More and Love All. Check out their promo video that explains the point in a super compelling way: [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LkTVPZRnawc&feature=player\\_embedded](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LkTVPZRnawc&feature=player_embedded).

I was inspired, but then this sold me completely: AdventConspiracy.org says that we spend \$450 billion annually in the U.S. But to solve all the clean water problems in the WORLD would take around \$8 billion. Ridiculous. If we really preach Jesus as Lord and Savior, what are we doing??? But wait — if I really preach Jesus as Lord and Savior, what am I doing?

This Christmas-with-minimal-Jesus pattern that I've gotten myself into isn't working for me. Too much stress, too little Jesus. And what I do with my money matters. It matters a lot. It's the difference between a heart-warming present that gets left on a shelf or stuffed in a closet, and clean water that saves people's lives. It's the difference between giving someone the white elephant gift they'll use at next year's Christmas party and providing loans to the poor to give them a working chance. It's the difference between giving wealthy people wealthy gifts or feeding an orphan.

I'm done. I'm kissing Christmas shopping goodbye. Next year, I'm giving all my money to charity. Like Opportunity International (which has a site where you can choose specific individuals in impoverished countries for whom to fund loans: [OpintNow.org](http://www.opintnow.org)). Or Yezelelem Minch, an Ethiopian orphan care program doing amazing things for street orphans (<http://www.helpsininternationalministries.org/outreach/yezalelem.shtml>). Or Living Water, which provides clean water in places that don't have it, like Haiti (<http://www.water.cc/>).

And I'm looking forward to experiencing even more Jesus next Christmas than I did this Christmas!

What are **you** doing? Want to join me?

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

Like this:

Like Loading...

### Spiritual Vitamins

20 *Monday* Dec 2010

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [deep thoughts, my spiritual journey](#)

≡ [Leave a Comment](#)

I love that when I'm in pain, I can take Tylenol. And when I'm feeling a bit under the weather, I've got my vitamin C and zinc. When I'm stressed, my vitamin B is on hand. And I have my potassium and calcium supplements for the intermittent times I'm a bit deficient.

The other day, I became really impatient with the kids. I don't know why I was patience-deficient, but I was. In that moment, I wished I could have popped a Patience Vitamin to make up for what I was lacking.

As a result of that, I would love to have a host of spiritual vitamins, or maybe even a spiritual multi-vitamin for those particularly flesh-strong days. Like humility — I could use that every day as a preemptive effort against pride. Or peace and rest, so I don't get overtaken by the demands of the world. Generosity would be up there, too. And I'd love to have the fruit of the spirit in a multi-vitamin with a high concentrate dose — love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control.

Fortunately, God is more keen on strengthening me spiritually than I am, and I'm sure He has a plan for helping me in these areas. Oh, yeah, that's right, it's called sanctification. But I wish it worked faster than it does. And was more tangible — I can hold a vitamin but it's hard to see the progress of my sanctification.

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

Like this:

Like Loading...

### Give and It Will Come Back to You

17 *Friday* Dec 2010

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [His mysterious ways, kid stories, my spiritual journey, spiritual truths](#)

≡ [1 Comment](#)

So the giving saga of our family continues (where God is using my children to coo/ect me about becoming more generous with my finances and things). This time it was Shiah.

A co-worker's daughter was hit by a car on her way to elementary school. And I went to see her in the hospital and take her gifts. I asked the kids if they would like to give her anything. Button no upstairs and found something spectacular for her (no surprise). Shiah, on the other hand, couldn't think of a thing. But my mom had just sent them a big box full of candy and gifts for pre-Christmas opening. So Button suggested he take the candy cane filled with m&m's that grandma gave him and give that to the girl. Shiah really struggled with this, but after a long talk with Niki in which Shiah was reminded of all God says about giving, he gave the girl his candy cane. And she loved it.

Niki suggested we incen/vize Shiah by giving him something bigger than the candy cane that evening so he would experience the truth of the Bible: "Give and it will come back to you, good measure pressed down and shaken together and running over." I said No. I've done that several times already, and I'm concerned Shiah is now giving because of what he will get rather than giving to give. It's becoming an investment opportunity rather than a gift. Let's just see what God does. This is between him and God.

Fast forward to one week later. I went to our church's women's night/Christmas party where we had the gift exchange. I got exactly what I wanted (Arbonne sea salt scrub), that is of course until Michele stole it from me at the very end of the party and I was stuck with something random — a bag with Christmassy sock gloves. "Well, I could put these in Button's stocking," I thought. That night when I got home (late), I inadvertently left the gift bag on the coffee table.

Which meant that the next morning, the first thing Button saw — and got into — was the bag. Me, in good Christian mom fashion, barked out, "GET OUT OF THERE. THAT'S NOT YOURS." It didn't really work, though, because Button had seen something — something I had failed to see. Out of the bag she lifted the candy that came with the socks — a candy cane filled with m&m's. Both her and Shiah's eyes were wide as saucers: "Mom! Look! Jesus gave Shiah back his candy cane!"

She was RIGHT. It was the exact same candy cane Shiah had given the girl. Here I had made a fuss at the party about losing the gift exchange, and in fact I came out the biggest winner of all. My gift was a fulfillment of a promise God had made to my son: Give and it will come back to you. And I completely missed it until a little child pointed it out to me. So clueless! I thought, "I wonder how many other miracles of God or answers to prayer I miss simply because I don't see it (or maybe because I'm too busy complaining about it)?" Then I asked God to forgive me and to give me faith like a child.

Oh, you should have seen Shiah start jumping around ecstatically — just like adults do when they get huge answers to huge prayers. And he polished off most the candy in that candy cane within 10 minutes. As he should have. I've decided I want to be like Button. To give what I cannot give. To see what I cannot see. No wonder the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these.

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

Like this:

Like Loading...

### So Many Changes

17 *Friday* Dec 2010

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [kid stories](#)

≡ [Leave a Comment](#)

- Joseph told me he loved me for the first time. It was on December 15. I was putting him to bed and I said, "Joseph, I love you." And he imitated it right back to me, "I uh oo." Aww! My heart TOTALLY melted.
- Joseph also is saying/imitating other words fairly consistently, like "bah-bah" (bye bye), "ah", "beh-beh" (baby), "uh-oh", and sometimes "ma maaa" (mama) and "deh-deh" (daddy). He also has started throwing things intentionally, climbing seats, stacking blocks, coloring, and bending down to try to pick things up. So happy about these milestones!
- The first word probably was "ah." He says it the most, and always with the biggest smile on his face. That, and uh-ohs. Shiah has started correcting him: "Joseph, it's not an uh-oh if you do it on purpose!"
- Joseph also has started signing for "more." He's had the sign for "hello" for 7 months, but he just started "more" last week.
- Joseph makes a fish-face to give kisses. He also "blows" kisses by tapping his mouth and making a kiss sound.
- Button and Shiah are growing too fast. Their waists still fit into their clothes, but both their little legs have shot out so EVERYTHING looks like shorts or koolools on them.

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

Like this:

Like Loading...

← [Older posts](#)

Search

### Follow Blog

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 904 other followers

### Recent Posts

- [Being Blind and Carrying Car Keys](#)
- [More relationships...](#)
- [Another Open Letter to President Obama](#)
- [You Can't Make This Up](#)
- [Button's Take on Birth Control](#)

### Archives

- [October 2013](#)
- [September 2013](#)
- [August 2013](#)
- [June 2013](#)
- [May 2013](#)
- [April 2013](#)
- [March 2013](#)
- [February 2013](#)
- [January 2013](#)
- [December 2012](#)
- [November 2012](#)
- [October 2012](#)
- [September 2012](#)
- [August 2012](#)
- [July 2012](#)
- [June 2012](#)
- [May 2012](#)
- [April 2012](#)
- [March 2012](#)
- [January 2012](#)
- [December 2011](#)
- [November 2011](#)
- [October 2011](#)
- [September 2011](#)
- [August 2011](#)
- [July 2011](#)
- [June 2011](#)
- [May 2011](#)
- [April 2011](#)
- [March 2011](#)
- [February 2011](#)
- [January 2011](#)
- [December 2010](#)
- [November 2010](#)
- [October 2010](#)
- [September 2010](#)
- [August 2010](#)
- [July 2010](#)
- [June 2010](#)
- [May 2010](#)
- [April 2010](#)
- [March 2010](#)
- [February 2010](#)
- [January 2010](#)
- [December 2009](#)
- [November 2009](#)
- [October 2009](#)
- [September 2009](#)
- [August 2009](#)
- [July 2009](#)
- [June 2009](#)
- [May 2009](#)
- [March 2009](#)
- [February 2009](#)
- [January 2009](#)
- [December 2008](#)
- [November 2008](#)
- [October 2008](#)
- [September 2008](#)
- [August 2008](#)
- [July 2008](#)
- [June 2008](#)
- [May 2008](#)
- [April 2008](#)
- [March 2008](#)
- [February 2008](#)
- [January 2008](#)
- [December 2007](#)
- [November 2007](#)
- [October 2007](#)
- [September 2007](#)
- [August 2007](#)
- [July 2007](#)
- [June 2007](#)
- [May 2007](#)
- [April 2007](#)
- [March 2007](#)
- [February 2007](#)
- [January 2007](#)

### Categories

Select Category

[Blog at WordPress.com: The Chateau Theme.](#)

[Follow](#)

Follow "Kelly Tshibaka"

Get every new post delivered to your inbox.

Join 904 other followers

Powered by [WordPress.com](#)

961 bloggers like this:



## Kelly Tshibaka

### Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional

Search:



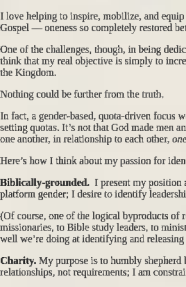
## Monthly Archives: *October 2012*

### Championing Women in Ministry Leadership

25 Thursday Oct 2012

Posted by [kashibaka in Uncategorized](#)

[» Leave a Comment](#)



2012 Women in Ministry Leadership Conference

I love helping to inspire, mobilize, and equip women into ministry leadership. Not only is it fun and rewarding to do for others what people have done for me, but to me it's also the essence of the Gospel — oneness to completely restored between us and God and between one another that there no longer is *male or female for you all are one in Christ Jesus*.

One of the challenges, though, in being dedicated to such an endeavor is being misunderstood. The main misunderstanding being that my passion is rooted in feminist motivations. As a result, some think that my real objective is simply to increase the number of women who are senior pastors — to reach a quota, if you will; to apply the feminist agenda and metrics of the world to the things of the Kingdom.

Nothing could be further from the truth.

In fact, a gender-based, quota-driven focus would be completely antithetical to what I'm committed to. You can't build the Kingdom — unity in the body of Christ — by playing gender or class quotas. It's not that God made men and women the same — our differences are beautiful, necessary, and reflect the nature of God. But God also didn't make us unequal. We were made for one another, in relationship to each other, one in Christ Jesus. To platform women simply because they're women is as counter-gospel as to diminish women simply because they're women.

Here's how I think about my passion for identifying, training and supporting, and releasing women in leadership ministry:

**Biblical grounded.** I profess my position not at resting on the authority of scripture, not prediction, experience, politics, or cultural convention. I seek to release spiritual ministry, not spiritual hierarchy. I desire to identify leadership, not achieve established quotas. (1 Tim. 4:13)

**Gift centered.** One of the logical byproducts of releasing spiritual ministry regardless of gender is that we will see more women in ministry leadership roles, from senior pastors, to associate pastors, to missionaries, to Bible study leaders, to ministry fundainers, to prayer warriors, etc. So while it's not about quotas, we can look at the numbers of women in ministry leadership positions to see how well we're doing at identifying and releasing leaders regardless of gender.)

**Charity.** My purpose is to humbly shepherd believers toward possibilities for serving Christ, not separate believers from Christ because of different opinions who each dearly love Him. My pursuit develops within relationships, not requirements; I am constrained by God's love, not driven by human fears. (Rom. 14:19, Phil. 2:3)

**Heart-felt Obedience.** My position is not a compromise or accommodation to current trends. Rather it is heart-felt obedience to what I believe the Bible commands. (2 John 1:6a, Jn. 14:21)

**Boldness.** I am part of the Foursquare denomination. "Foursquare" means "to take a bold, firm stand, forthright, unwavering in conviction." "Boldness" is not "brashness" or engaging in debate or contentiousness, but is speaking God's truth in love. (Eph. 4:15) I am completely Foursquare on the issue of women in ministry leadership — I speak God's truth in love, boldly, forthrightly, and unwaveringly, but not in a contentious or heavy way.

Share this:

- [Facebook](#)
- [Twitter](#)
- [LinkedIn](#)
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### How Joseph Is Handling the Transition to a Soon-to-Be New Baby

23 Tuesday Oct 2012

Posted by [kashibaka in Uncategorized](#)

[» Leave a Comment](#)



Joseph is doing really well with the expectation of a new baby joining the family. He kisses baby (my tummy) a lot, talks about the baby a lot, and talks to him a lot. It's so precious. He also recognizes that he is a BIG boy and NOT a baby — the baby is in my tummy and will be here soon.

The interesting thing for me has been him becoming more aware, through this process, of how his birth story is different than the baby's. He often refers to the baby — "Baby kicks you like me!" "Baby is in my tummy like me!" — and I correct him to let him know that he was in a tummy and his birth mom did feel his kicks, but he didn't come from my tummy — he came from my husband's tummy.

I'm not sure he fully gets it, but I can see that some of it sets in.

His story is different. He's not sure why. He doesn't fully get it. But I can see that he is somewhat sad that he can't fully identify with the birth story he sees playing out right in front of him.

Recently I showed the kids all the photos of Siah's birth so they could see what it would be like when I leave for a couple days to go deliver the baby. I will be delivering at the same hospital, so Siah's birth photos are super helpful for the kids to relate to. "This is the room I'll be in; these are the people that will be there, and see I'm happy and the hospital takes good care of me!" — those kind of things, just to set their hearts at ease.

As we were looking at Siah's photos, Jofiah kept making comments that indicated he thought his story was the same.

"I was born there, too, Mama." "No, Jofiah. You were born in Ethiopia."

"Nana and Kaka and Auntie were at my birth, too, Mama." "No, Jofiah, when we got you, just me and daddy got to be there. But they all came to see you when we brought you home."

And then he had one. "I was in your tummy, too, Mama." "No, Jofiah. You were in my birth mom's tummy." He got a sad face as the realization set in that we didn't share the 9 months of bonding that we've all gotten to share with this baby. He never was in my tummy. So I went on to explain, "Joseph, your mama was nice, and pretty, and she cared about you so much that she said, 'I don't have enough money to feed Joseph, can you please take care of him for me?' And we said, 'Yes!' because we loved you before you were born and we waited for you for so many years and we couldn't wait to bring you home." He smiled.

"Jofiah, do you want me to show you pictures of when you were a baby and we got you?" "Yes! Yes!" He jumped up and down. "Sissy, Siah, watch! Watch the photos of ME!" And together we all looked through the photos of Joseph's Gocho Day, the day an absolute gift from God and miracle came into our lives. And I told him his story—it might be different, but it is no less special. We were just as happy, and he was just as special to us as Siah and Butson. And the pictures showed that.

Share this:

- [Facebook](#)
- [Twitter](#)
- [LinkedIn](#)
- [More](#)

Like this:

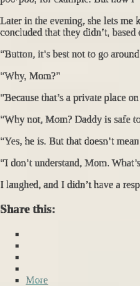
Like Loading...

### The Last Few Days of Pregnancy

20 Sunday Oct 2012

Posted by [kashibaka in Uncategorized](#)

[» Leave a Comment](#)



Baby is due this week. I have an induction scheduled for Thursday if he isn't here before then. He's definitely getting bigger and bigger...and dropping. And I'm connecting frequently, but not frequently enough for it to be labor. So my body is totally ready for labor, and at this point we're just waiting for his ideal timing!

This likely is our last weekend as a family with three kids. Kinda surreal. Hard to imagine that soon there will be another voice in the mix. Another kid running around. Someone else dancing, singing, having his own preferences.

Hard to believe that soon — very soon — someone will be in our lives who will hold such a special and priceless place in our heart. And yet someone who we presently don't know. We don't know what he'll look like, what his personality will be, the things he'll like. But after this week, we won't be able to imagine life without him.

"Yess, he is. But that doesn't mean it's appropriate to just talk about all the time. That word is a private word, for special conversations. So I don't use it much, even with Daddy."

It's hard to believe I will love him like I do Butson, Siah, and Jofiah. That he will make me laugh like they do. That I will have special songs, memories, and a relationship with him that I don't have with anyone else. But I know it's true.

In a funny way, I think I have significantly more expectation and excitement about his birth than I have any of the previous ones. Mostly because I have a much better idea of what our future looks like together. Now that I've been able to enjoy years of Butson, Siah, and Jofiah, I have something concrete to give me long-term perspective on what's ahead of us.

What would it be like to hold baby Butson, Siah, or Jofiah in my arms again? Knowing that the infant days — though long, frustrating, and generally more challenging than rewarding — will pass before we'll look like I do and quickly fade into memories lost? What would it be like to take in the fullness of that newborn snore, this time so aware that it's short-lived? To not be bothered by the cries because I know I'll do fine parenting them and we'll all end up loving each other more than we can ever imagine? How exciting! It would be like going on a first date with Niki again, knowing that he not only would become my husband but that we would also have an incredibly fun, adventure-packed life together.

"Wow!" he gushed!

Share this:

- [Facebook](#)
- [Twitter](#)
- [LinkedIn](#)
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### Oh the Things Button Says!

17 Wednesday Oct 2012

Posted by [kashibaka in Funny, kid stories, raising kids](#)

[» Leave a Comment](#)

Tags

[Parenting](#)

Butson had been working on homework for an hour, and then there was dinner, and then there was more homework. She finally finished (and well, I might add) and I directed her to the next "to do" on her list.

"Mom, can I please go to the bathroom first? See, I think my academics is really important. I want to pass this program so I can get into the next program when we move. So I've been working really hard ever since I got home to do my homework. But I've also had to go to the bathroom ever since I got home. I think my academics is a greater priority than reading fiction books, or going poop-oo, for example. But now I really have to go poop-oo. So can I do that before I can do my homework?"

Later in the evening, she lets me know that two boys in her class found the word "vagina" (sic) in the dictionary at school. She let them know that she knew all about the "vagina" and did they? She concluded that they didn't, based on their response. I jumped in.

"Button, it's best not to go around using the word 'vagina' with people."

"Why, Mom?"

"Because that's a private place on your body, and when you start using that word, people start thinking about something that should stay private. I don't even use that word with Daddy."

"Why not, Mom? Daddy is safe to talk about these things with." (I'm glad that this is her foundational thought.)

"Yess, he is. But that doesn't mean it's appropriate to just talk about all the time. That word is a private word, for special conversations. So I don't use it much, even with Daddy."

"I don't understand, Mom. What's the problem? I mean, you guys connect, and you like to connect A LOT!"

I laughed, and I didn't have a response to that. I was so caught off guard!

Share this:

- [Facebook](#)
- [Twitter](#)
- [LinkedIn](#)
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### How Do You Do It? Siah's Questions About Work Life Balance

15 Monday Oct 2012

Posted by [kashibaka in kid stories, Uncategorized, women's topics](#)

[» Leave a Comment](#)

Tags

[Parenting](#), [Work](#)

Siah pulled me aside before bedtime. "Mama, how do you get up every night in the middle of the night to go to work? How do you do it?"

"I do it for you, Siah. Did you know that Micki and Papa used to do the same thing? Micki would get up in the middle of the night and go to work, and Papa would take me and Auntie LJ to school so Micki could be home to spend time with us in the evening."

He didn't get the connection — how he made it possible for me to get up and work so early.

"How do you know when to wake up?"

"I get an alarm."

"But aren't you tired?"

"Yes, but the thought of you gives me energy and keeps me up. Sometimes the alarm goes off and my whole body just wants to sleep! But then I think, 'SIAH!' and I get up and get going. See, if I sleep later then I have to work later, and I won't get home till after you go to bed. That's not worth it to me. You're too important to me for that. But after he said that, I was like, 'Oh, that's what you can have time with you then get more sleep and naps you. That would hurt my heart too much.'

He smiled and gave me a hug and a big kiss on the cheek. "Night, Mama."

"Goodnight, Siah."

Share this:

- [Facebook](#)
- [Twitter](#)
- [LinkedIn](#)
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### I "Knew" I Had to Get in Front of This!

13 Sunday Oct 2012

Posted by [kashibaka in raising kids](#)

[» Leave a Comment](#)

Tags

[Parenting](#)

And what do you know? For those comments when I wonder whether it really was right/inevitably necessary for us to have the Talk with Butson, I see something like this! A Houston school is introducing sex ed material that's so graphic it can't be shown on tv. Because it apparently crosses the line of soft porn. In addition to showing girls how to put condoms on boys, it also introduces topics like anal and oral sex.

Check it out:

<http://radio.foxnews.com/toddsnames/top-stories/middle-school-sex-class-shows-kids-how-to-use-condoms.html>

What's going through my head right now:

- I'm really glad we had the Talk. I can't control everything she'll be introduced to or when, but I know she has a framework to filter it and I know she knows she can come home and talk to us about sex, it's bad. It's the most beautiful and awesome thing in the world when it's in the right context. That's the takeaway. So I jumped in, "Yep, like 2 seconds." No sooner had I said it than Siah retorted with, "Not for YOUR Daddy!" Oh, laughing with tears again!
- "So what about the kids I know whose parents aren't married? How were they made if only married people connect?" Niki did a masterful job of explaining that any man and any woman can do this, but it's not best for the baby if they're not married. Kids grow up without a mom or without a dad, and that's not the best for them. What God gave us as a framework is best — save this for the person you're married to. Not only is it best for the baby, but it's best for you. If you're not married and the person you sleep with leaves you, it will break your heart every time. Even if you don't end up getting pregnant and having a baby, you will end up getting a broken heart. It's not worth it.

Niki then went on to explain other ways why God's way was the best way for us, including the rampant spread of sexual disease. When people who aren't married do this, and they do it with several people, they end up getting diseases that make them really sick, hurt their bodies, can make other people sick, can kill them, or can keep them from having babies. It's really dangerous to do this when you're not married.

We then used that to bring a discussion into how she will see and hear lots of things that communicate something different from what we've shared with her — that it's good to connect with lots of people, that there's nothing wrong with it, that it's not dangerous, etc. But we have to be really wise when we're exposed to these things. We have to filter them through truth. Not everyone likes God's way because they don't realize that it's best for them, they don't understand why it's good. They think God is just a Rule Maker who likes to take all the fun out of life. But really it's the opposite. God gives us rules to let us know how to have the MOST fun. When you follow God's ways, you have the most fun, the best connections, the best relationships, and the least heartbreak.

At the end of all that. We've talked her whole life about how she thinks and lives differently than us.

She understood, we explained that this "connecting" was often called "sex" or "sleeping together." I'd heard those terms used. And then Niki totally emphasized the importance of keeping this information to herself — not sharing it at school, at church, or with her brothers because not everybody is ready to handle this special kind of grown-up information. But she is, and that's why we wanted to share it with her.

Any more questions? Nope, she's got it. No big deal. For her...LOL!

In the end, both Niki and I felt like we accomplished our objectives, that she understood it well, and that we succeeded in laying the foundation for all-things-sexuality that we want her to have.

Share this:

- [Facebook](#)
- [Twitter](#)
- [LinkedIn](#)
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### Let's Talk About Sex, Part 2

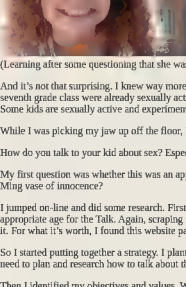
09 Tuesday Oct 2012

Posted by [kashibaka in kid stories, raising kids, Uncategorized](#)

[» 1 Comment](#)

Tags

[Parenting](#)



So, armed with those principles (1. I want our beliefs and values about sex to be the foundation in her mind, the standard by which she judges everything else she hears. It's just a matter of time before false, harmful, or inappropriate things come across her path. I want her to know how to identify them and why they're not okay. We're going to be the first to lay the cement in this house. Hopefully she will be able to discern enough in what is good and what is right that she can even influence her peers in that direction, rather than vice versa.

2. I want her to know she can talk to mom and dad about sex and sexuality now, later, and always. This is not a taboo topic for me and Niki to talk about with her. To that end, the Talk can't be the awkward for her (we'd have to coax out our awkward feelings), and we need to be honest. We need to tell her all she needs to know, and no more and no less.

3. I want to give her a biblical paradigm for processing all things sexuality. While we won't cover every variation, issue, or aberration in this talk, I want her to have the foundations for a way of thinking about everything sex. (Pragmatically, I found that many students in law school made illogical arguments and reached nonsensical conclusions about critical legal matters simply because of a poorly defined worldview and philosophy about sexual issues.) The way she thinks about sex will affect a lot more than what she does with her body. It has the potential to affect her mind, soul, spirit, and body in serious, and possibly disastrous ways. And, conversely, it has the potential of being one of the healthiest, greatest, most beautiful, and awesome things she will ever experience. I want to be the latter.

(To be continued: How it went...)

Share this:

- [Facebook](#)
- [Twitter](#)
- [LinkedIn](#)
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### Let's Talk About Sex, Part 1

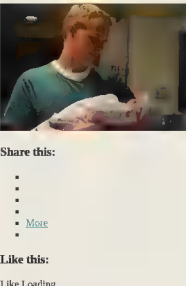
06 Sunday Oct 2012

Posted by [kashibaka in Uncategorized](#)

[» Leave a Comment](#)

Tags

[Parenting](#)



Butson had been making a lot of sex-related comments that made me think it's time to have the Talk. Things like, "Mama, what's 'sexy' mean?" (Leaving aside some questioning that she was meaning 'sexy') And "Boys want to touch girls' private parts." I don't know where she's getting this stuff, but I suspect it's school.

It's not that that's surprising. I knew way more than I should about sex when I was in third grade (thanks to a close friend who was being exposed to way too much sexuality at home), and kids in my seventh grade class were already sexually active. I also started asking around and learned from friends who teach school in the area that kids know all about sex by mid-late elementary school. Some kids are sexually aware and experimental by fourth and fifth grade.

While I was picking my jaw up off the floor, I realized that it was time for the Talk. You know, that super-embarrassing I'd-rather-not-have-to-but-I-wish-someone-had-told-me Talk.

Then I want to talk to your kid about sex? Especially from a Christian perspective?

My first question was whether this was an appropriate age. She's eight now. She still likes to sleep with her blanket. She loves watching Duck Tales and Dora. Am I taking a sledge hammer to her mind? Or a wedge of innocence?

I jumped on-line and did some research. First, there's not much out there. At least not much that lines up with our worldview and values. Second, everything said around eight years old was an appropriate age for the Talk. Again, scraping my jaw off the floor. Looks like my mommy instincts were right. We're hearing the off-handed comments because it's time. Didn't mean I wanted to do it. For that it's worth, I found this website particularly helpful: <http://xaviasparenting.com/aintnobodysh>

So I started putting together a strategy. I planted the bug in Niki's ear — I think it's time. I knew he'd be reluctant. I told him I'd research it and put a plan together (All the while so frustrated that I need to plan and research how to talk about this! Shouldn't I know?)

Then I identified my objectives and values. What was I trying to accomplish? Here are the things that mattered to me:

- I want our beliefs and values about sex to be the foundation in her mind, the standard by which she judges everything else she hears. It's just a matter of time before false, harmful, or inappropriate things come across her path. I want her to know how to identify them and why they're not okay. We're going to be the first to lay the cement in this house. Hopefully she will be able to discern enough in what is good and what is right that she can even influence her peers in that direction, rather than vice versa.
- I want her to know she can talk to mom and dad about sex and sexuality now, later, and always. This is not a taboo topic for me and Niki to talk about with her. To that end, the Talk can't be the awkward for her (we'd have to coax out our awkward feelings), and we need to be honest. We need to tell her all she needs to know, and no more and no less.
- I want to give her a biblical paradigm for processing all things sexuality. While we won't cover every variation, issue, or aberration in this talk, I want her to have the foundations for a way of thinking about everything sex. (Pragmatically, I found that many students in law school made illogical arguments and reached nonsensical conclusions about critical legal matters simply because of a poorly defined worldview and philosophy about sexual issues.) The way she thinks about sex will affect a lot more than what she does with her body. It has the potential to affect her mind, soul, spirit, and body in serious, and possibly disastrous ways. And, conversely, it has the potential of being one of the healthiest, greatest, most beautiful, and awesome things she will ever experience. I want to be the latter.

(To be continued)

Share this:

- [Facebook](#)
- [Twitter](#)
- [LinkedIn](#)
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### Holding the Miracle

01 Monday Oct 2012

Posted by [kashibaka in healing, His mysterious ways, miscarriage, spiritual truths, Uncategorized, women's topics](#)

[» Leave a Comment](#)

Shane's sister couldn't have a baby. And she'd suffered a lot of pain and grief trying. Her life broke for her. Anyone who has been close to a woman grieving loss of children or the inability to have children knows how profound the pain is.

And Jesus knows. His heart breaks with ours. That's one of the reasons I love praying for healing in this area — to see the restoration and gift of God when life comes into a place where there has only been barrenness, loss, or death.

Despite all odds, Shane wanted our help. Her. How do I pray for healing in this area? I passed on what I knew. And he began contending. Unwaveringly. And some of us prayed with him.

And she got pregnant. We held our breath. To believe or to doubt? Is this life or loss in the making? We kept praying. Especially Shane.

The pregnancy progressed. For the first time, this one didn't seem like it was going to end up like the other ones. Hope started to take root. And he kept contending. And he kept us updated so we could join in.

And then, he was born. The answer to prayer. The miracle. With this one child, death was rebuked. Despair was rebuked. The years that had been destroyed were suddenly restored.

And Shane got to hold the miracle in his arms. One of my favorite pictures EVER.



Share this:

- [Facebook](#)
- [Twitter](#)
- [LinkedIn](#)
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

Search:

### Follow Blog

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 904 other followers









INTERNET ARCHIVE  
WayBackMachine

## Latest

[Show All](#)

Hrm.

The Wayback Machine has not archived that URL.

This page is available on the web!

Help make the Wayback Machine more complete!

Save this url in the Wayback Machine

Click here to search for all archived pages under <http://www.facebook.com/>.



Your use of the Wayback Machine is subject to the Internet Archive's Terms of Use



- [About](#)
- [Resources](#)
- [Speaking](#)

## Kelly Tshibaka

### ~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional

Search:



## Monthly Archives: *April 2007*

### [And the Heavens Rejoiced](#)

**24 Tuesday Apr 2007**

Posted by [kashibaka in kid stories, ministry](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

*There will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents . . .* Luke 15:7

On April 24, 2007, Button accepted Jesus as her savior!

I was putting her to bed, and we were reading a story from the Bible — how Joseph interpreted Pharaoh's dreams and advised Pharaoh to prepare for a famine. At the end of the story, Button asked me if we could read the story about the "fire." I thought she was talking about Moses and the burning bush. But when I flipped to that story, she corrected me — "No, maaa. Not that story. The other fire story." She flipped the pages back to the beginning — the story of creation — and pointed to a picture of what looked like a volcanic explosion.

I started to read her the creation story, but she stopped me. "Mama, I don't want to go into the fire," she said. This surprised me, since it had nothing to do with the story and I don't think anyone has ever talked to her about hell or going into fires at all. I responded, "Well, you don't have to." "I want to follow Jesus," she replied.

"Now's a good time to begin explaining the gospel message to her," I thought. At least I could begin laying a foundation for her, and she can make a salvation decision later when she understands it better.

So I began, "Button, is mommy going into the fire?" I asked her. She shook her head. "That's right. I'm not going into the fire because I have Jesus in my heart."

"I want Jesus in my heart, too," she said. "Like you, Mama."

"You do?" I asked. She nodded. And then passed.

"Mama, are other people going into the fire?"

"Yes, Button. Other people will go into the fire," I said.

"That makes God very sad," she said, forlorned.

"Yes, it does, Button. You're right — it makes Him very sad."

"But I'm not going into the fire," she said.

I continued the discussion. "Button, has mommy made mistakes?" She shook her head; I corrected her, "Yes, mommy has made *many* mistakes." "Has God made mistakes?" I asked. She shook her head again. "That's right, Button. God has never made a mistake. But because mommy has made mistakes, she can't be with God. God has never made mistakes and He can't be with people who have made mistakes. But, God came to earth as Jesus and He died for us and took all our mistakes away with Him. So, because I believe Jesus took away my mistakes, it's like I never made any mistakes. And so now I can be with God forever."

Then I asked her, "Button, have you made mistakes?" She nodded. Then she said, "Mama, I want to be with God forever. I want Jesus in my heart like you."

"Ok, Button. All we have to do is pray a simple prayer. Do you want to wait til Daddy gets home to pray?"

"No, I want to pray with you now," she said.

"Ok. Put your hands together, and close . . ."

"Wait, mommy! Cover me up with the pink blanket first! Don't forget my feet!"

"Ok, are you ready?" She nodded. "Repeat after me. Jesus . . ."

"No, mommy. I don't want to pray that prayer."

"If you want Jesus in your heart, Button, you have to pray the prayer."

Then she started on her own, without any prompting from me. "Jesus, I don't wanna go in the fire."

And then — with some help from me — she continued, "I want you to pray for me forever. Please forgive me if I ever done wrong, Amen!"

Out of the mouth of babes and nursing infants You have perfected praise Psalm 8:2

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- 

Like this:

Like Loading...

### [The Daycare Sign](#)

**24 Tuesday Apr 2007**

Posted by [kashibaka in His mysterious ways](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

A couple years ago, Niki & I made extensive arrangements to bring a nanny into our home to watch Button. But 3 weeks before the nanny was to start, we found out she was no longer available. We were stuck — we were without childcare in a city of daycares that routinely have waitlists of more than a year.

We frantically began looking for options. We found some — but they were too expensive (upwards of \$20,000/year), or were half-day programs, or were too far away (an extra 40 minutes to an hour onto our daily commutes).

Then Niki suggested I stop by a house where he had seen a small sign in the front yard that read, "Daycare: Openings." He had seen the sign for a couple weeks, and he told me where the house was — less than 10 houses down our street.

I rang the doorbell one afternoon in complete desperation. Turned out the family ran a home-based daycare that had everything I was looking for in a program, and they had openings — which I later found out is quite rare. I enrolled Button immediately, and both she and Cutie Pie now go there. They love it, and the ladies love (and spoil) them.

Th ladies who run the daycare have turned out to be more than child care for us — they're family. And now that we have started our fellowship, they have joined as and support us greatly.

Recently we were sharing with them and another daycare family the story of how we found them. That's when we learned that they never have put a sign outside their house or advertised their daycare in any way. I never saw the sign either — even though I drive by their house every day. Niki was perplexed — "Then how did you know where to go to inquire?" he asked. "You told me where you saw the sign," I said.

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- 

Like this:

Like Loading...

### [The Power of a Wife](#)

**23 Monday Apr 2007**

Posted by [kashibaka in marriage, spiritual truths](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

1 Kings tells the story of Ahab, king of Israel, who did many evil things — including killing a man to steal his vineyard.

But 1 Kings 21:25 sheds some interesting light on the force behind Ahab — his wife, Jezebel: "No one else so completely sold himself to what was evil in the Lord's sight as Ahab did under the influence of his wife Jezebel." The implication is that without the influence of his wife, Ahab would not have been nearly as evil. His wife was key to him becoming more evil than he ever could be on his own.

That's the power of wives. We have the ability to make our husbands more [blank] than they ever could be on their own. And we get to choose what word goes in that [blank].

Jezebel chose "evil." By her actions and words, she made her husband more EVIL than he ever could have been on his own. I also know of wives who have chosen "weak," "cowardly," "bitter," "resentful," "hateful," and "lifeless."

As wives, we must be careful and intentional about how we treat them. We must be mindful that our thoughts, words, and actions strongly affect who our husbands will be. We must be strategic and deliberate about what we say, what we do, and how we treat them.

For example, take a wife whose husband is generally apathetic about spiritual matters. But the wife aspires to make him more spiritual than he ever could have been on his own. She could strategically and deliberately pray for him, pray with him, speak encouraging words of Truth to him, share Bible verses with him in a loving way, show him the love of Jesus by her actions, and never give up! That's right, Button. God has never made a mistake. But because mommy has made mistakes, she can't be with God. God has never made mistakes and He can't be with people who have made mistakes. But, God came to earth as Jesus and He died for us and took all our mistakes away with Him. So, because I believe Jesus took away my mistakes, it's like I never made any mistakes. And so now I can be with God forever."

Proverbs 14:1 says "A wise woman builds her home, but a foolish woman tears it down with her own hands." As wives, we have a choice — to build our homes or to tear them down. We have great power — to be constructive (as in construct our home) or destructive (as in destroy our home). Our every word, every thought, and every action is either a brick used to build or a sledge hammer used to destroy.

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- 

Like this:

Like Loading...

### [The Cockroach and the Coed](#)

**20 Friday Apr 2007**

Posted by [kashibaka in spiritual truths](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

This morning on my way to work, I was praying the Lord for being such a wonderful and mighty Savior. I declared this biblical truth: *There is no greater love than to lay down one's life for one's friends.* And Jesus did not His friends. We were sinners — enemies of Jesus. Yet, while we were still sinners, Jesus died for us. Prior to His crucifixion, Jesus made these comments, "If you love only those who love you, what reward is there for that?," "If you are kind only to your friends, how are you different from anyone else?," "I say, love your enemies!" And then when He was crucified for us — His enemies — Jesus acted out what He preached: love your enemies.

Who can comprehend this? What kind of love is this? It's one thing to grasp dying for a friend; it's quite another thing to fathom dying for an enemy.

In reflecting on this, I remembered a student organization fair I attended in college. At these fairs, all the college organizations set up booths, and the students mill around, deciding which clubs to join. You have church clubs, language clubs, political clubs, athletic clubs, social clubs . . .

☑And the Bug Club. I rounded the corner and just about jumped out of my skin. This student showed the most revolting Texas-sized cockroach in my face and enthusiastically asked, "Wanna join the Bug Club? We study the most amazing creatures!!!" I stifled a shriek and was about to emphatically decline the invitation when I stopped — stunned, perplexed, and speechless. The student was a beautiful, feminine, nicely dressed coed. How could she even stand these things? How could she be so excited about them? What in the world???

But see, we are like that Texas-sized cockroach, and Jesus is like that coed. Our sin makes us utterly repulsive and revolting to the perfect, holy Almighty God. And yet, He loves us so much that He paid the ultimate price to take away our repulsiveness and make us like Him — holy and blameless. He delights in us, and He is enthusiastic about us. And He always has been — the Bible tells us that even when Jesus walked the earth, he often invited disreputable sinners — the worst of the worst — to dinner. And then He defended Himself to critics with comments like "Healthy people don't need a doctor—sick people do" and "I have come to call not those who think they are righteous, but those who know they are sinners."

His love continues to confound me — what in the world? I don't fully get it, but I accept it. I am as comfortable as that cockroach in the palm of that coed's hand.

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- 

Like this:

Like Loading...

### [Note to a New Believer](#)

**20 Friday Apr 2007**

Posted by [kashibaka in letters](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

*A note to a woman who visited one of our services and accepted Jesus.*

[First Name],  
It was such a delight to meet you [on the date of the service]. Thank you for joining us that weekend!

Niki mentioned to me that you accepted Jesus as your Savior at our service. I can't tell you how elated I've been for you upon hearing that news! I am gathering some resources to send you to help you start your journey as a Christian, and I'll send them soon. The next steps for you are to find a church to join, and to get baptised! I have enclosed info about churches [in your area]. Please let me know if you like one of them in particular — I will call the pastor on your behalf.

I hope to see you soon — it's so wonderful to hear what God is doing in your life; I wish I could see it firsthand.

Warm regards,  
Kelly

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- 

Like this:

Like Loading...

### [Button's First Debate](#)

**19 Thursday Apr 2007**

Posted by [kashibaka in kid stories](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

Yesterday at daycare, an older boy came out of the potty with Star Wars underwear and commented to another boy, "Look, I have Chewbacca on my butt."

Button's ears perked up and she came charging from across the room. "I AM NOT ON YOUR BUTT! I AM NOT!! TSHIBAKA IS NOT ON YOUR BUTT!"

"Yes, he is!" the boy responded. "I got Chewbacca on my butt!"

The argument escalated over, and Button insisted she wasn't on his butt, and the boy upset that she was calling him a liar.

One of the daycare providers stepped in and tried to explain, "Chewbacca is a character in a movie, Button. And the character is on his underwear." "NUH-UH! I am NOT in your movie! Don't say that! I am NOT in your movie! I AM NOT ON HIS BUTT!"

The argument eventually dissipated, but not before Button chewed him out. She may not have been "on his butt" before, but the sure was after he made that comment!

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- 

Like this:

Like Loading...

### [Daddy's Candycane](#)

**18 Wednesday Apr 2007**

Posted by [kashibaka in kid stories, spiritual truths](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

While I was giving Button a bath the other day, she began drawing in water on the side of the tub (an invisible picture). She said, "Mama, I'm gonna draw Daddy. Here's his head. Here's his body. Here's his two legs. Here's his two hands. And here's his candycane..." — at which point she drew a large shepherd's staff in Niki's left hand.

But see, we are like that Texas-sized cockroach, and Jesus is like that coed. Our sin makes us utterly repulsive and revolting to the perfect, holy Almighty God. And yet, He loves us so much that He paid the ultimate price to take away our repulsiveness and make us like Him — holy and blameless. He delights in us, and He is enthusiastic about us. And He always has been — the Bible tells us that even when Jesus walked the earth, he often invited disreputable sinners — the worst of the worst — to dinner. And then He defended Himself to critics with comments like "Healthy people don't need a doctor—sick people do" and "I have come to call not those who think they are righteous, but those who know they are sinners."

His love continues to confound me — what in the world? I don't fully get it, but I accept it. I am as comfortable as that cockroach in the palm of that coed's hand.

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- 

Like this:

Like Loading...

### [Why I Love Church](#)

**16 Monday Apr 2007**

Posted by [kashibaka in Church](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

There is nothing particularly appealing about cooking, cleaning, planning, scheduling, and preparing for all things related to our church. These things, in themselves, are not exciting or rewarding. They don't keep me going. I don't enjoy church for church's sake. Who needs just another thing to add to their schedule?

But when church is about loving God and loving people, that's what is appealing, exciting, and rewarding. In the same way that we go to the greatest lengths to be with the people we love on holidays, I do all I can to serve and be with those I love every day of the week.

I love the people. I love walking with them through life. I love watching them come alive and be filled with joy. I love listening to them, talking to them, and supporting them. I love their friendship. I love celebrating their victories with them, and mourning when they mourn. I love seeing God change their lives, showing them who He made them to be, and blessing them.

Bagel breakfasts, Sunday services, and group dinners have no purpose in themselves. They are not church — at least not in the way the Lord conceives of it. Their purpose lies only in the relationships they foster — both with God and with others. Church without relationship is dead.

I don't love Sunday services, I love God, and I love the people.

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- 

Like this:

Like Loading...

### [Our First Production](#)

**11 Wednesday Apr 2007**

Posted by [kashibaka in stories from a pioneer church](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

Easter 2007. Our first production.

With some encouragement and inspiration from some pastor friends of ours, we arranged to have our Easter service at Mount Vernon this year, George Washington's estate just outside of DC. The event was called *Easter at Mount Vernon*, and we had it in a nice-size auditorium in the visitor center, complete with powerplot, speakers, microphones, bulletins, decorations, and a detailed schedule. We even had brunch at the Inn at Mount Vernon following our service. We made reservations for 50 people, and the Lord filled those seats!

So much went into pulling off this event. Our fellowship mastered together all its resources for weeks in advance to do this. Everyone was involved, and it was a huge success! A couple people responded to the invitation to accept or re-dedicate their lives to the Lord!!! And many seeds were planted and relationships formed. Simply awesome and simply unbelievable!

But this was our first production. Don't get me wrong, every Sunday is a "production" — the house is cleaned, breakfast and lunch are prepped and served, coffee is made, worship songs are selected and printed off, the message is delivered and recorded, activities are planned, children's church is held, and there's clean-up. But our usual Sunday looks a lot different than our Easter service did. And takes a lot less effort — I spent a good 10-20 hours/week for weeks in advance getting ready for Easter.

When our fellowship was talking through the details of Easter the week before, we were a bit stressed and a bit perplexed — there were a lot of details like strategic ushering, planning the deliverance of communion, preoccupying kids, deciding what announcements to make, scripting out transitions, and figuring out who and what goes where when. In the middle of all this, a woman in our fellowship exhorted us, "Don't worry! Churches do this every Sunday!"

Then I hit me. She's exactly right. Churches do this EVERY Sunday. I couldn't even imagine. I noticed the toll that planning Easter had taken on me — I was not able to spend as much time during the week with people in our fellowship; I was distracted from praying for people in our fellowship as much as I normally do; and I had to put on pause things like strategizing ways to best meet the spiritual needs of people in our fellowship and surrounding community. How do churches do productions every Sunday and still prioritize prayer, individual spiritual development, discipling, relationship building, and outreach?

It seems to be that many churches do it. Many churches focus on the production at the expense of the more critical activities. It's an easy trap to fall into — I noticed our fellowship had to actively resist falling into that trap while we prepared for Easter. We started to get really stressed about speakers not working, doors being locked, lights and projectors fritzing out, instruments not cooperating, etc. And then we would just stop and re-focus ourselves by praying as a group.

This Easter service taught me several things (which I'll blog more on later). I'm not anti-production, but I am anti-show. Our Sundays are not a show. They're real. It's not about what we look like, it's about who we're there. The speakers might not work, an instrument might be out of tune, a kid might disrupt us. But we don't need speakers, perfect instruments, or right-tipped kids to love God and love people. There is a benefit to having organized services, but not at the expense of relationships, discipling, and prayer, or joyful hearts and quiet spirits.

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- 

Like this:

Like Loading...

← Older posts

Search:

### [Follow Blog](#)

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 904 other followers

### [Recent Posts](#)

- [Being Blind and Carrying Car Keys](#)
- [More relationship...](#)
- [Another Open Letter to President Obama](#)
- [You Can't Make This Up](#)
- [Baron's Take on Birth Control](#)

### [Archives](#)

- [September 2013](#)
- [August 2013](#)
- [June 2013](#)
- [May 2013](#)
- [April 2013](#)
- [March 2013](#)
- [February 2013](#)
- [January 2013](#)
- [December 2012](#)
- [November 2012](#)
- [October 2012](#)
- [September 2012](#)
- [August 2012](#)
- [July 2012](#)
- [June 2012](#)
- [May 2012](#)
- [April 2012](#)
- [March 2012](#)
- [February 2012](#)
- [January 2012](#)
- [December 2011](#)
- [November 2011](#)
- [October 2011](#)
- [September 2011](#)
- [August 2011](#)
- [July 2011](#)
- [June 2011](#)
- [May 2011](#)
- [April 2011](#)
- [March 2011](#)
- [February 2011](#)
- [January 2011](#)
- [December 2010](#)
- [November 2010](#)
- [October 2010](#)
- [September 2010](#)
- [August 2010](#)
- [July 2010](#)
- [June 2010](#)
- [May 2010](#)
- [April 2010](#)
- [March 2010](#)
- [February 2010](#)
- [January 2010](#)
- [December 2009](#)
- [November 2009](#)
- [October 2009](#)
- [September 2009](#)
- [August 2009](#)
- [July 2009](#)
- [June 2009](#)
- [May 2009](#)
- [April 2009](#)
- [March 2009](#)
- [February 2009](#)
- [January 2009](#)
- [December 2008](#)
- [November 2008](#)
- [October 2008](#)
- [September 2008](#)
- [August 2008](#)
- [July 2008](#)
- [June 2008](#)
- [May 2008](#)
- [April 2008](#)
- [March 2008](#)
- [February 2008](#)
- [January 2008](#)
- [December 2007](#)
- [November 2007](#)
- [October 2007](#)
- [September 2007](#)
- [August 2007](#)
- [July 2007](#)
- [June 2007](#)
- [May 2007](#)
- [April 2007](#)
- [March 2007](#)
- [February 2007](#)
- [January 2007](#)

### [Categories](#)

Select Category

[Blog at WordPress.com](#). [The Chateau Theme](#).

[Follow](#)

### [Follow "Kelly Tshibaka"](#)

Get every new post delivered to your Inbox.

Join 904 other followers

Powered by [WordPress.com](#)

%d bloggers like this:

This XML file does not appear to have any style information associated with it. The document tree is shown below.

```
▼<rss xmlns:content="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/content/" xmlns:dc="http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/" xmlns:atom="http://www.w3.org/2005/Atom"
xmlns:sy="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/syndication/" xmlns:georss="http://www.georss.org/georss" xmlns:geo="http://www.w3.org/2003/01/geo/wgs84_pos#"
xmlns:media="http://search.yahoo.com/mrss/" version="2.0">
▼<channel>
  ▼<title>
    Comments on: Another Open Letter to President Obama
  </title>
  <atom:link href="http://kellytshibaka.com/2013/10/03/another-open-letter-to-president-obama/feed/" rel="self" type="application/rss+xml"/>
  ▼<link>
    http://kellytshibaka.com/2013/10/03/another-open-letter-to-president-obama/
  </link>
  ▼<description>
    Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional
  </description>
  <lastBuildDate>Wed, 09 Oct 2013 01:35:44 +0000</lastBuildDate>
  <sy:updatePeriod>hourly</sy:updatePeriod>
  <sy:updateFrequency>1</sy:updateFrequency>
  <generator>http://wordpress.com/</generator>
</channel>
</rss>
```

- [About](#)
- [Resources](#)
- [Speaking](#)

## Kelly Tshibaka

~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional

Search:



[Quote](#)

### More relationsh...

05 Saturday Oct 2013

Posted by [kishibaka](#) in [Uncategorized](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

More relationships are killed by passivity than abuse

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

Like this:

Like Loading...

### Post navigation

[← Previous post](#) [Next post →](#)

Leave a Reply

Enter your comment here...

Fill in your details below or click an icon to log in:

- 
- 
- 
- 

Email (Address never made public)

 WordPress.com Logo

You are commenting using your WordPress.com account. ( [Log Out](#) / [Change](#) )

You are commenting using your Twitter account. ( [Log Out](#) / [Change](#) )

You are commenting using your Facebook account. ( [Log Out](#) / [Change](#) )

You are commenting using your Google+ account. ( [Log Out](#) / [Change](#) )

[Cancel](#)

Connecting to %s

☐ Notify me of follow-up comments via email.

☐ Notify me of new posts via email.

Search:

### Follow Blog

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 904 other followers

### Recent Posts

- [Encouraging Words from a Church Leader](#)
- [Bath time, cuddling with Papa, and soccer with Sissy](#)
- [Being Blind and Carrying Car Keys](#)
- [More relationsh...](#)
- [Another Open Letter to President Obama](#)

### Archives

- [October 2013](#)
- [September 2013](#)
- [August 2013](#)
- [June 2013](#)
- [May 2013](#)
- [April 2013](#)
- [March 2013](#)
- [February 2013](#)
- [January 2013](#)
- [December 2012](#)
- [November 2012](#)
- [October 2012](#)
- [September 2012](#)
- [August 2012](#)
- [July 2012](#)
- [June 2012](#)
- [May 2012](#)
- [April 2012](#)
- [March 2012](#)
- [January 2012](#)
- [December 2011](#)
- [November 2011](#)
- [October 2011](#)
- [September 2011](#)
- [August 2011](#)
- [July 2011](#)
- [April 2011](#)
- [March 2011](#)
- [February 2011](#)
- [January 2011](#)
- [December 2010](#)
- [November 2010](#)
- [October 2010](#)
- [September 2010](#)
- [August 2010](#)
- [July 2010](#)
- [June 2010](#)
- [May 2010](#)
- [April 2010](#)
- [March 2010](#)
- [February 2010](#)
- [January 2010](#)
- [December 2009](#)
- [November 2009](#)
- [October 2009](#)
- [September 2009](#)
- [August 2009](#)
- [July 2009](#)
- [June 2009](#)
- [May 2009](#)
- [March 2009](#)
- [February 2009](#)
- [January 2009](#)
- [December 2008](#)
- [November 2008](#)
- [October 2008](#)
- [September 2008](#)
- [August 2008](#)
- [July 2008](#)
- [June 2008](#)
- [May 2008](#)
- [April 2008](#)
- [March 2008](#)
- [February 2008](#)
- [January 2008](#)
- [December 2007](#)
- [November 2007](#)
- [October 2007](#)
- [September 2007](#)
- [August 2007](#)
- [July 2007](#)
- [June 2007](#)
- [May 2007](#)
- [April 2007](#)
- [March 2007](#)
- [February 2007](#)
- [January 2007](#)

### Categories

Select Category

[Blog at WordPress.com.](#) [The Chateau Theme.](#)

[Follow](#)

Follow “Kelly Tshibaka”

Get every new post delivered to your Inbox.

Join 904 other followers

Enter your email address:

Powered by [WordPress.com](#)

%d bloggers like this:



This XML file does not appear to have any style information associated with it. The document tree is shown below.

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8" ?>
<rss xmlns:content="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/content/" xmlns:dc="http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/" xmlns:atom="http://www.w3.org/2005/Atom"
xmlns:sy="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/syndication/" xmlns:georss="http://www.georss.org/georss" xmlns:geo="http://www.w3.org/2003/01/geo/wgs84_pos#"
xmlns:media="http://search.yahoo.com/mrss/" version="2.0">
  <channel>
    <title>Comments on: Button's Take on Birth Control</title>
    <atom:link href="http://kellytshibaka.com/2013/09/16/buttons-take-on-birth-control/feed/" rel="self" type="application/rss+xml"/>
    <link>
      http://kellytshibaka.com/2013/09/16/buttons-take-on-birth-control/
    </link>
    <description>
      Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional
    </description>
    <lastBuildDate>Wed, 09 Oct 2013 01:35:44 +0000</lastBuildDate>
    <sy:updatePeriod>hourly</sy:updatePeriod>
    <sy:updateFrequency>1</sy:updateFrequency>
    <generator>http://wordpress.com/</generator>
  </channel>
</rss>
```

This XML file does not appear to have any style information associated with it. The document tree is shown below.

```
▼<rss xmlns:content="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/content/" xmlns:dc="http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/" xmlns:atom="http://www.w3.org/2005/Atom"
xmlns:sy="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/syndication/" xmlns:georss="http://www.georss.org/georss" xmlns:geo="http://www.w3.org/2003/01/geo/wgs84_pos#"
xmlns:media="http://search.yahoo.com/mrss/" version="2.0">
▼<channel>
  <title>Comments on: Resources</title>
  <atom:link href="http://kellytshibaka.com/resources/feed/" rel="self" type="application/rss+xml"/>
  <link>http://kellytshibaka.com</link>
▼<description>
  Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional
</description>
<lastBuildDate>Wed, 09 Oct 2013 01:35:44 +0000</lastBuildDate>
<sy:updatePeriod>hourly</sy:updatePeriod>
<sy:updateFrequency>1</sy:updateFrequency>
<generator>http://wordpress.com/</generator>
▼<item>
  <title>By: Kelly Leith</title>
  ▼<link>
    http://kellytshibaka.com/resources/comment-page-1/#comment-729
  </link>
  ▼<dc:creator>
    <![CDATA[ Kelly Leith ]]>
  </dc:creator>
  <pubDate>Mon, 16 Sep 2013 20:11:00 +0000</pubDate>
  <guid isPermaLink="false">http://kellytshibaka.com/?page_id=864#comment-729</guid>
  ▼<description>
    ▼<![CDATA[
      Is there a cd or article when Pastor Debbie spoke at your church? I would love to have a copy if possible!! Thank you so much Sincerely, Kelly Leith
    ]]>
  </description>
  ▼<content:encoded>
    ▼<![CDATA[
      <p>Is there a cd or article when Pastor Debbie spoke at your church? I would love to have a copy if possible!! Thank you so much</p> <p>Sincerely,</p>
      <p>Kelly Leith</p>
    ]]>
  </content:encoded>
</item>
</channel>
</rss>
```

- [About](#)
- [Resources](#)
- [Speaking](#)

## Kelly Tshibaka

### ~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional

Search:



### Where Is God In a Friend's Murder-Suicide

16 Friday Aug 2013

Posted by [kushibaka](#) in [deep thoughts](#), [spiritual truths](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

#### Tags

[Pastoring](#)

*A man in our church is good friends with Muni. He stayed at Muni's house last month--Muni was in Israel attending his brother's funeral (his brother committed suicide). You may have heard of Muni: last week he murdered his son before taking his own life. <http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/nation/2013/08/11/father-kills-son-ywca/264133/>*

*When the monsters in the news take on a human face, when you are aware of their despair and hopelessness, you can't help but move from judgment to empathy and conviction. Oh, if only Muni had had an ounce of hope. He wasn't a monster. He was in despair.*

*I was moved deeply by the truth, revelation, and compassion of the man in our church as he wrote to tell us about Muni. I want to share those insights with you--*

As I went for a walk, trying to make sense of the senseless, it occurred to me that God sees it all, whether He wants to or not, whether we tell Him or not.

He is the one who sees.

He has to see the senseless, the hateful, the contemptible, the awful and all the rest.

And even though He's able to stop it all, He can't stop everything because He wants to give us a choice whether or not to choose Him, because if there's no choice, it's not really love.

So in a sense, that poor child died so that I would have an opportunity to choose God.

It gave me a glimpse of how valuable I am to God.

I don't know exactly how it all works, but it is very hard being God.

I know it's not something I'm really able to do, but I want to make the depravity of this world just a little less total by living for God.

I want to let Him have His way in my life.

I don't want what happened tonight, and other unspeakably awful things, to happen as often.

I want to be a conduit of blessing.

It's not that I think I could have stopped this: that's not likely.

But intercession puts God into situations in ways we don't entirely understand.

And given that Muni decided everything is hopeless, maybe it's good for me to maintain an attitude of hopefulness.

Even when the unspeakable happens.

After all, a good God is watching, and maybe there's just a chance that I can make what He sees a bit less painful.

#### Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

#### Like this:

Like Loading...

### Post navigation

[← Previous post](#) [Next post →](#)

#### Leave a Reply

Enter your comment here...

Fill in your details below or click an icon to log in:

- 
- 
- 
- 

Email (Address never made public)

Name

Website

 WordPress.com Logo

You are commenting using your WordPress.com account. ( [Log Out](#) / [Change](#) )



You are commenting using your Twitter account. ( [Log Out](#) / [Change](#) )



You are commenting using your Facebook account. ( [Log Out](#) / [Change](#) )



You are commenting using your Google+ account. ( [Log Out](#) / [Change](#) )

[Cancel](#)

Connecting to %s

☐ Notify me of follow-up comments via email.

☐ Notify me of new posts via email.

Search:

### Follow Blog

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 904 other followers

### Recent Posts

- [Encouraging Words from a Church Leader](#)
- [Bath time, cuddling with Papa, and soccer with Sissy](#)
- [Being Blind and Carrying Car Keys](#)
- [More relationships...](#)
- [Another Open Letter to President Obama](#)

### Archives

- [October 2013](#)
- [September 2013](#)
- [August 2013](#)
- [June 2013](#)
- [May 2013](#)
- [April 2013](#)
- [March 2013](#)
- [February 2013](#)
- [January 2013](#)
- [December 2012](#)
- [November 2012](#)
- [October 2012](#)
- [September 2012](#)
- [August 2012](#)
- [July 2012](#)
- [June 2012](#)
- [May 2012](#)
- [April 2012](#)
- [March 2012](#)
- [January 2012](#)
- [December 2011](#)
- [November 2011](#)
- [October 2011](#)
- [September 2011](#)
- [August 2011](#)
- [July 2011](#)
- [April 2011](#)
- [March 2011](#)
- [February 2011](#)
- [January 2011](#)
- [December 2010](#)
- [November 2010](#)
- [October 2010](#)
- [September 2010](#)
- [August 2010](#)
- [July 2010](#)
- [June 2010](#)
- [May 2010](#)
- [April 2010](#)
- [March 2010](#)
- [February 2010](#)
- [January 2010](#)
- [December 2009](#)
- [November 2009](#)
- [October 2009](#)
- [September 2009](#)
- [August 2009](#)
- [July 2009](#)
- [June 2009](#)
- [May 2009](#)
- [March 2009](#)
- [February 2009](#)
- [January 2009](#)
- [December 2008](#)
- [November 2008](#)
- [October 2008](#)
- [September 2008](#)
- [August 2008](#)
- [July 2008](#)
- [June 2008](#)
- [May 2008](#)
- [April 2008](#)
- [March 2008](#)
- [February 2008](#)
- [January 2008](#)
- [December 2007](#)
- [November 2007](#)
- [October 2007](#)
- [September 2007](#)
- [August 2007](#)
- [July 2007](#)
- [June 2007](#)
- [May 2007](#)
- [April 2007](#)
- [March 2007](#)
- [February 2007](#)
- [January 2007](#)

### Categories

Select Category

[Blog at WordPress.com](#). [The Chateau Theme](#).

[Follow](#)

#### Follow “Kelly Tshibaka”

Get every new post delivered to your Inbox.

Join 904 other followers

Powered by [WordPress.com](#)

%d bloggers like this:



This XML file does not appear to have any style information associated with it. The document tree is shown below.

```
▼<rss xmlns:content="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/content/" xmlns:dc="http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/" xmlns:atom="http://www.w3.org/2005/Atom"
xmlns:sy="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/syndication/" xmlns:georss="http://www.georss.org/georss" xmlns:geo="http://www.w3.org/2003/01/geo/wgs84_pos#"
xmlns:media="http://search.yahoo.com/mrss/" version="2.0">
▼<channel>
  ▼<title>
    Comments on: Best Advice I've Received on How to Live Well
  </title>
  <atom:link href="http://kellytshibaka.com/2013/08/17/best-advice-ive-received-on-how-to-live-well/feed/" rel="self" type="application/rss+xml"/>
  ▼<link>
    http://kellytshibaka.com/2013/08/17/best-advice-ive-received-on-how-to-live-well/
  </link>
  ▼<description>
    Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional
  </description>
  <lastBuildDate>Wed, 09 Oct 2013 01:35:44 +0000</lastBuildDate>
  <sy:updatePeriod>hourly</sy:updatePeriod>
  <sy:updateFrequency>1</sy:updateFrequency>
  <generator>http://wordpress.com/</generator>
</channel>
</rss>
```

This XML file does not appear to have any style information associated with it. The document tree is shown below.

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8" ?>
<rss xmlns:content="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/content/" xmlns:dc="http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/" xmlns:atom="http://www.w3.org/2005/Atom"
xmlns:sy="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/syndication/" xmlns:georss="http://www.georss.org/georss" xmlns:geo="http://www.w3.org/2003/01/geo/wgs84_pos#"
xmlns:media="http://search.yahoo.com/mrss/" version="2.0">
  <channel>
    <title>Comments on: Time Together</title>
    <atom:link href="http://kellytshibaka.com/2013/09/04/time-together/feed/" rel="self" type="application/rss+xml"/>
    <link>http://kellytshibaka.com/2013/09/04/time-together/</link>
    <description>
      Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional
    </description>
    <lastBuildDate>Wed, 09 Oct 2013 01:35:44 +0000</lastBuildDate>
    <sy:updatePeriod>hourly</sy:updatePeriod>
    <sy:updateFrequency>1</sy:updateFrequency>
    <generator>http://wordpress.com/</generator>
  </channel>
</rss>
```

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8" ?>
<rss xmlns:content="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/content/" xmlns:dc="http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/" xmlns:atom="http://www.w3.org/2005/Atom"
xmlns:sy="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/syndication/" xmlns:georss="http://www.georss.org/georss" xmlns:geo="http://www.w3.org/2003/01/geo/wgs84_pos#"
xmlns:media="http://search.yahoo.com/mrss/" version="2.0">
  <channel>
    <title>Comments on: Speaking</title>
    <atom:link href="http://kellytshibaka.com/speaking/feed/" rel="self" type="application/rss+xml"/>
    <link>http://kellytshibaka.com</link>
    <description>
      Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional
    </description>
    <lastBuildDate>Wed, 09 Oct 2013 01:35:44 +0000</lastBuildDate>
    <sy:updatePeriod>hourly</sy:updatePeriod>
    <sy:updateFrequency>1</sy:updateFrequency>
    <generator>http://wordpress.com/</generator>
    <item>
      <title>By: Jeongkwon Choi</title>
      <link>
        http://kellytshibaka.com/speaking/comment-page-1/#comment-704
      </link>
      <dc:creator>
        <![CDATA[ Jeongkwon Choi ]]>
      </dc:creator>
      <pubDate>Mon, 29 Jul 2013 03:10:01 +0000</pubDate>
      <guid isPermaLink="false">http://kellytshibaka.com/?page_id=861#comment-704</guid>
      <description>
        <![CDATA[
          Dear kelly. Hi my name is Jeongkwon Choi Your movie(This is Discipleship) is very impressive... I live in South Korea. I saw the video clip that you make
          to a Korean translate version(vimeo site version). But that's meaning does not appear well. so strange. I can help you correct to translation. Your
          movie will affect to a Churches & a Christians in South Korea. and if you remakes to movie in korean version, can I use your movie clip in worship
          service? I'm pastor of Bundang Woori Chuch. Our Church is very affected Churches in the middle of South Korea. I will waiting to your reply. much
          more... sincerely.. Choi.
        ]]>
      </description>
      <content:encoded>
        <![CDATA[
          <p>Dear kelly.</p>
          <p>Hi my name is Jeongkwon Choi</p>
          <p>Your movie(This is Discipleship) is very impressive; I live in South Korea. I saw the
          video clip that you make to a Korean translate version(vimeo site version). But that's meaning does not appear well. so strange. I can help you
          correct to translation. Your movie will affect to a Churches & a Christians in South Korea. and if you remakes to movie in korean version, can I use
          your movie clip in worship service? I'm pastor of Bundang Woori Chuch. Our Church is very affected Churches in the middle of South Korea. </p>
          <p>I
          will waiting to your reply. much more.</p>
          <p>sincerely.. Choi.</p>
        ]]>
      </content:encoded>
    </item>
  </channel>
</rss>
```





This XML file does not appear to have any style information associated with it. The document tree is shown below.

```
▼<rss xmlns:content="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/content/" xmlns:dc="http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/" xmlns:atom="http://www.w3.org/2005/Atom"
xmlns:sy="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/syndication/" xmlns:georss="http://www.georss.org/georss" xmlns:geo="http://www.w3.org/2003/01/geo/wgs84_pos#"
xmlns:media="http://search.yahoo.com/mrss/" version="2.0">
▼<channel>
  <title>Comments on: About</title>
  <atom:link href="http://kellytshibaka.com/about/feed/" rel="self" type="application/rss+xml"/>
  <link>http://kellytshibaka.com</link>
▼<description>
  Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional
</description>
<lastBuildDate>Wed, 09 Oct 2013 01:35:44 +0000</lastBuildDate>
<sy:updatePeriod>hourly</sy:updatePeriod>
<sy:updateFrequency>1</sy:updateFrequency>
  <generator>http://wordpress.com/</generator>
</channel>
</rss>
```

DONATE

INTERNET ARCHIVE  
WayBack Machine

<http://kellytshibaka.com/2013/09/25/you-cant-make-this-up/>

Latest

Show All

Hrm.

The Wayback Machine has not archived that URL.

This page is available on the web!

Help make the Wayback Machine more complete!

Save this url in the Wayback Machine

Click here to search for all archived pages under  
<http://kellytshibaka.com/2013/09/25/you-cant-make-this-up/>.



The Wayback Machine is an initiative of the Internet Archive, a 501(c)(3) non-profit building a digital library of Internet sites and other cultural artifacts in digital form. Other projects include Open Library & archive-it.org.

Your use of the Wayback Machine is subject to the Internet Archive's Terms of Use





- [About](#)
- [Resources](#)
- [Speaking](#)

## Kelly Tshibaka

### ~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional



[Quote](#)

### Jesus Doesn't Need Makeup

17 *Thursday* Oct 2013

Posted by [kishibaka](#) in [Church](#), [deep thoughts](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

**Tags**

[Pastoring](#)

If you have to put makeup on Jesus, then you're making people fall in love with an image that doesn't exist. Jesus doesn't need makeup. And if He does, then there's a problem with our understanding of who He is and what His message is.

—Pastor Niki Tshibaka

#### Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

#### Like this:

Like Loading...

### Post navigation

[← Previous post](#)

### Leave a Reply



(Address is never made public)

☐ Notify me of follow-up comments via email.

☐ Notify me of new posts via email.

Search:

### Follow Blog

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 904 other followers

### Recent Posts

- [Jesus Doesn't Need Makeup](#)
- [Payback](#)
- [Man Training Starts Young](#)
- [Encouraging Words from a Church Leader](#)
- [Bath time, cuddling with Papa, and soccer with Sissy](#)

### Archives

- [October 2013](#)
- [September 2013](#)
- [August 2013](#)
- [June 2013](#)
- [May 2013](#)
- [April 2013](#)
- [March 2013](#)
- [February 2013](#)
- [January 2013](#)
- [December 2012](#)
- [November 2012](#)
- [October 2012](#)
- [September 2012](#)
- [August 2012](#)
- [July 2012](#)
- [June 2012](#)
- [May 2012](#)
- [April 2012](#)
- [March 2012](#)
- [January 2012](#)
- [December 2011](#)
- [November 2011](#)
- [October 2011](#)
- [September 2011](#)
- [August 2011](#)
- [July 2011](#)
- [April 2011](#)
- [March 2011](#)
- [February 2011](#)
- [January 2011](#)
- [December 2010](#)
- [November 2010](#)
- [October 2010](#)
- [September 2010](#)
- [August 2010](#)
- [July 2010](#)
- [June 2010](#)
- [May 2010](#)
- [April 2010](#)
- [March 2010](#)
- [February 2010](#)
- [January 2010](#)
- [December 2009](#)
- [November 2009](#)
- [October 2009](#)
- [September 2009](#)
- [August 2009](#)
- [July 2009](#)
- [June 2009](#)
- [May 2009](#)
- [March 2009](#)
- [February 2009](#)
- [January 2009](#)
- [December 2008](#)
- [November 2008](#)
- [October 2008](#)
- [September 2008](#)
- [August 2008](#)
- [July 2008](#)
- [June 2008](#)
- [May 2008](#)
- [April 2008](#)
- [March 2008](#)
- [February 2008](#)
- [January 2008](#)
- [December 2007](#)
- [November 2007](#)
- [October 2007](#)
- [September 2007](#)
- [August 2007](#)
- [July 2007](#)
- [June 2007](#)
- [May 2007](#)
- [April 2007](#)
- [March 2007](#)
- [February 2007](#)
- [January 2007](#)

### Categories

Select Category ▾

[Blog at WordPress.com. The Chateau Theme.](#)

[Follow](#)

#### Follow “Kelly Tshibaka”

Get every new post delivered to your Inbox.

Join 904 other followers

Powered by [WordPress.com](#)

%d bloggers like this:

- [About](#)
- [Resources](#)
- [Speaking](#)

## Kelly Tshibaka

### ~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional



[Quote](#)

### The local church...

24 *Thursday* Oct 2013

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [Uncategorized](#)

≈ [1 Comment](#)

The local church is like an aircraft carrier. We are deployed and anchored in strategic communities where we weekly train and then deploy to our workplaces, families, neighborhoods, schools. Many of us need to re-engage with the missional nature of our church by rejecting the notion that the local church is a cruise ship that we hop on and off at our leisure. Instead, we come to get filled and fueled to engage the world.

~Isaac Hovet, Pastor of Cottage Grove Faith Center

#### Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 


#### Like this:

Like Loading...

### Post navigation


[← Previous post](#) [Next post →](#)

#### 1 thought on “The local church...”

- 

Peg Travis said:  
[October 25, 2013 at 1:12 am](#)  
Kelly and Nickie what do you think of OBAMACARE?  
[Reply](#)

### Leave a Reply



(Address is never published)

☐ Notify me of follow-up comments via email.

☐ Notify me of new posts via email.

Search:

### Follow Blog

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 907 other followers

### Recent Posts

- [Seeing Jesus in the Autumn](#)
- [\\$120 Appetizer](#)
- [Pecking Order of Genuses](#)
- [Jealousy is the Source of All Evil](#)
- [Bad Mexican](#)

### Archives

- [November 2013](#)
- [October 2013](#)
- [September 2013](#)
- [August 2013](#)
- [June 2013](#)
- [May 2013](#)
- [April 2013](#)
- [March 2013](#)
- [February 2013](#)
- [January 2013](#)
- [December 2012](#)
- [November 2012](#)
- [October 2012](#)
- [September 2012](#)
- [August 2012](#)
- [July 2012](#)
- [June 2012](#)
- [May 2012](#)
- [April 2012](#)
- [March 2012](#)
- [January 2012](#)
- [December 2011](#)
- [November 2011](#)
- [October 2011](#)
- [September 2011](#)
- [August 2011](#)
- [July 2011](#)
- [April 2011](#)
- [March 2011](#)
- [February 2011](#)
- [January 2011](#)
- [December 2010](#)
- [November 2010](#)
- [October 2010](#)
- [September 2010](#)
- [August 2010](#)
- [July 2010](#)
- [June 2010](#)
- [May 2010](#)
- [April 2010](#)
- [March 2010](#)
- [February 2010](#)
- [January 2010](#)
- [December 2009](#)
- [November 2009](#)
- [October 2009](#)
- [September 2009](#)
- [August 2009](#)
- [July 2009](#)
- [June 2009](#)
- [May 2009](#)
- [March 2009](#)
- [February 2009](#)
- [January 2009](#)
- [December 2008](#)
- [November 2008](#)
- [October 2008](#)
- [September 2008](#)
- [August 2008](#)
- [July 2008](#)
- [June 2008](#)
- [May 2008](#)
- [April 2008](#)
- [March 2008](#)
- [February 2008](#)
- [January 2008](#)
- [December 2007](#)
- [November 2007](#)
- [October 2007](#)
- [September 2007](#)
- [August 2007](#)
- [July 2007](#)
- [June 2007](#)
- [May 2007](#)
- [April 2007](#)
- [March 2007](#)
- [February 2007](#)
- [January 2007](#)

### Categories

Select Category ▼

[Blog at WordPress.com.](#) [The Chateau Theme.](#)

[Follow](#)

#### Follow “Kelly Tshibaka”

Get every new post delivered to your Inbox.

Join 907 other followers

Powered by [WordPress.com](#)

%d bloggers like this:



- [About](#)
- [Resources](#)
- [Speaking](#)

## Kelly Tshibaka

~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional

Search:



### Bad Mexican

26 Saturday Oct 2013

Posted by [kushibaka](#) in [kid stories](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

#### Tags

[kid stories](#), [Parenting](#)

Button used magnetic shapes to build a fort. "It's the Alamo!" she proudly declared.

In true brother fashion, Siah promptly goes over and knocks it down.

She stares at him matter-of-factly and issues her indictment: "You're just a bad Mexican."

#### Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

#### Like this:

Like Loading...

### Post navigation

[← Previous post](#) [Next post →](#)

#### Leave a Reply

Email

Name

Website

☐ Notify me of follow-up comments via email.

☐ Notify me of new posts via email.

Post Comment

Search:

### Follow Blog

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 907 other followers

Follow

### Recent Posts

- [I Love Family Day](#)
- [Seeing Jesus in the Autumn](#)
- [\\$120 Appetizer](#)
- [Pecking Order of Genuses](#)
- [Jealousy is the Source of All Evil](#)

### Archives

- [November 2013](#)
- [October 2013](#)
- [September 2013](#)
- [August 2013](#)
- [June 2013](#)
- [May 2013](#)
- [April 2013](#)
- [March 2013](#)
- [February 2013](#)
- [January 2013](#)
- [December 2012](#)
- [November 2012](#)
- [October 2012](#)
- [September 2012](#)
- [August 2012](#)
- [July 2012](#)
- [June 2012](#)
- [May 2012](#)
- [April 2012](#)
- [March 2012](#)
- [January 2012](#)
- [December 2011](#)
- [November 2011](#)
- [October 2011](#)
- [September 2011](#)
- [August 2011](#)
- [July 2011](#)
- [April 2011](#)
- [March 2011](#)
- [February 2011](#)
- [January 2011](#)
- [December 2010](#)
- [November 2010](#)
- [October 2010](#)
- [September 2010](#)
- [August 2010](#)
- [July 2010](#)
- [June 2010](#)
- [May 2010](#)
- [April 2010](#)
- [March 2010](#)
- [February 2010](#)
- [January 2010](#)
- [December 2009](#)
- [November 2009](#)
- [October 2009](#)
- [September 2009](#)
- [August 2009](#)
- [July 2009](#)
- [June 2009](#)
- [May 2009](#)
- [March 2009](#)
- [February 2009](#)
- [January 2009](#)
- [December 2008](#)
- [November 2008](#)
- [October 2008](#)
- [September 2008](#)
- [August 2008](#)
- [July 2008](#)
- [June 2008](#)
- [May 2008](#)
- [April 2008](#)
- [March 2008](#)
- [February 2008](#)
- [January 2008](#)
- [December 2007](#)
- [November 2007](#)
- [October 2007](#)
- [September 2007](#)
- [August 2007](#)
- [July 2007](#)
- [June 2007](#)
- [May 2007](#)
- [April 2007](#)
- [March 2007](#)
- [February 2007](#)
- [January 2007](#)

### Categories

Select Category ▼

[Blog at WordPress.com.](#) [The Chateau Theme.](#)

[Follow](#)

#### Follow “Kelly Tshibaka”

Get every new post delivered to your Inbox.

Join 907 other followers

Enter your email address

Sign me up

Powered by [WordPress.com](#)

%d bloggers like this:

- [About](#)
- [Resources](#)
- [Speaking](#)

[Kelly Tshibaka](#)

~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional



Jealousy is the Source of All Evil

28 Monday Oct 2013

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [Uncategorized](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

"For where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there is disorder and every evil thing." James 3:16

<http://www.foxnews.com/us/2013/10/28/man-fatally-stabs-mother-t-children-in-brooklyn-home/>

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

Like this:

Like Loading...

Post navigation

[← Previous post](#) [Next post →](#)

Leave a Reply

Email (Address never made public)

Name

Website

☐ Notify me of follow-up comments via email.

☐ Notify me of new posts via email.

Search:

Follow Blog

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 907 other followers

Recent Posts

- [I Love Family Day](#)
- [Seeing Jesus in the Autumn](#)
- [\\$120 Appetizer](#)
- [Pecking Order of Genuses](#)
- [Jealousy is the Source of All Evil](#)

Archives

- [November 2013](#)
- [October 2013](#)
- [September 2013](#)
- [August 2013](#)
- [June 2013](#)
- [May 2013](#)
- [April 2013](#)
- [March 2013](#)
- [February 2013](#)
- [January 2013](#)
- [December 2012](#)
- [November 2012](#)
- [October 2012](#)
- [September 2012](#)
- [August 2012](#)
- [July 2012](#)
- [June 2012](#)
- [May 2012](#)
- [April 2012](#)
- [March 2012](#)
- [January 2012](#)
- [December 2011](#)
- [November 2011](#)
- [October 2011](#)
- [September 2011](#)
- [August 2011](#)
- [July 2011](#)
- [April 2011](#)
- [March 2011](#)
- [February 2011](#)
- [January 2011](#)
- [December 2010](#)
- [November 2010](#)
- [October 2010](#)
- [September 2010](#)
- [August 2010](#)
- [July 2010](#)
- [June 2010](#)
- [May 2010](#)
- [April 2010](#)
- [March 2010](#)
- [February 2010](#)
- [January 2010](#)
- [December 2009](#)
- [November 2009](#)
- [October 2009](#)
- [September 2009](#)
- [August 2009](#)
- [July 2009](#)
- [June 2009](#)
- [May 2009](#)
- [March 2009](#)
- [February 2009](#)
- [January 2009](#)
- [December 2008](#)
- [November 2008](#)
- [October 2008](#)
- [September 2008](#)
- [August 2008](#)
- [July 2008](#)
- [June 2008](#)
- [May 2008](#)
- [April 2008](#)
- [March 2008](#)
- [February 2008](#)
- [January 2008](#)
- [December 2007](#)
- [November 2007](#)
- [October 2007](#)
- [September 2007](#)
- [August 2007](#)
- [July 2007](#)
- [June 2007](#)
- [May 2007](#)
- [April 2007](#)
- [March 2007](#)
- [February 2007](#)
- [January 2007](#)

Categories

Select Category ▾

[Blog at WordPress.com. The Chateau Theme.](#)

[Follow](#)

Follow “Kelly Tshibaka”

Get every new post delivered to your Inbox.

Join 907 other followers

Enter your email address

Powered by [WordPress.com](#)

%d bloggers like this:

- [About](#)
- [Resources](#)
- [Speaking](#)

## Kelly Tshibaka

### ~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional

Search:



## Pecking Order of Geniuses

30 Wednesday Oct 2013

Posted by [kushbaka](#) in [kid stories, raising kids](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

#### Tags

[Parenting](#)

Button was sitting at the table doing some math homework. My parents were there, as was Nikl and Siah. She handed me her homework to correct. Now, in the immediate family, I'm the best at math. I tell the kids I'm a math whiz, so don't let math scare them — they've got math whiz brain in them, too. And my mom is even more of a math whiz than me — in fact, she built a career around it.

So I was surprised, and a bit indignant, when I told Button she got a problem wrong and she challenged me. I quickly retorted, "In the pecking order of geniuses in this family, where do you think you stand?!" I then proceeded to work through the problem step-by-step with her...only to catch my error and prove that SHE was right.

Button looked at me with THAT look, but didn't dare say what she was thinking. She didn't have to...my mom was there: "Ha! In the pecking order of geniuses, where do YOU stand, Kelly?!"

#### Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

#### Like this:

Like Loading...

## Post navigation

[← Previous post](#) [Next post →](#)

## Leave a Reply

Email

Name

Website

☐

Notify me of follow-up comments via email.

☐

Notify me of new posts via email.

Post Comment

Search:

## Follow Blog

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 907 other followers

## Recent Posts

- [Ministry Is Like Landing on Mars](#)
- [I Love Family Day](#)
- [Seeing Jesus in the Autumn](#)
- [\\$120 Appetizer](#)
- [Pecking Order of Geniuses](#)

## Archives

- [November 2013](#)
- [October 2013](#)
- [September 2013](#)
- [August 2013](#)
- [June 2013](#)
- [May 2013](#)
- [April 2013](#)
- [March 2013](#)
- [February 2013](#)
- [January 2013](#)
- [December 2012](#)
- [November 2012](#)
- [October 2012](#)
- [September 2012](#)
- [August 2012](#)
- [July 2012](#)
- [June 2012](#)
- [May 2012](#)
- [April 2012](#)
- [March 2012](#)
- [January 2012](#)
- [December 2011](#)
- [November 2011](#)
- [October 2011](#)
- [September 2011](#)
- [August 2011](#)
- [July 2011](#)
- [April 2011](#)
- [March 2011](#)
- [February 2011](#)
- [January 2011](#)
- [December 2010](#)
- [November 2010](#)
- [October 2010](#)
- [September 2010](#)
- [August 2010](#)
- [July 2010](#)
- [June 2010](#)
- [May 2010](#)
- [April 2010](#)
- [March 2010](#)
- [February 2010](#)
- [January 2010](#)
- [December 2009](#)
- [November 2009](#)
- [October 2009](#)
- [September 2009](#)
- [August 2009](#)
- [July 2009](#)
- [June 2009](#)
- [May 2009](#)
- [March 2009](#)
- [February 2009](#)
- [January 2009](#)
- [December 2008](#)
- [November 2008](#)
- [October 2008](#)
- [September 2008](#)
- [August 2008](#)
- [July 2008](#)
- [June 2008](#)
- [May 2008](#)
- [April 2008](#)
- [March 2008](#)
- [February 2008](#)
- [January 2008](#)
- [December 2007](#)
- [November 2007](#)
- [October 2007](#)
- [September 2007](#)
- [August 2007](#)
- [July 2007](#)
- [June 2007](#)
- [May 2007](#)
- [April 2007](#)
- [March 2007](#)
- [February 2007](#)
- [January 2007](#)

## Categories

Select Category ▾

[Blog at WordPress.com. The Chateau Theme.](#)

[Follow](#)

### Follow “Kelly Tshibaka”

Get every new post delivered to your Inbox.

Join 907 other followers

Enter your email address

Powered by [WordPress.com](#)  
961 bloggers like this:



- [About](#)
- [Resources](#)
- [Speaking](#)

## Kelly Tshibaka

~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional

Search:



### \$120 Appetizer

01 Friday Nov 2013

Posted by [kushibaka](#) in [funny](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

Only in DC



Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

Like this:

Like Loading...

### Post navigation

[← Previous post](#) [Next post →](#)

### Leave a Reply



(Address never made public)

☐ Notify me of follow-up comments via email.

☐ Notify me of new posts via email.

Search:

### Follow Blog

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 907 other followers

### Recent Posts

- [Ministry Is Like Landing on Mars](#)
- [I Love Family Day](#)
- [Seeing Jesus in the Autumn](#)
- [\\$120 Appetizer](#)
- [Pecking Order of Geniuses](#)

### Archives

- [November 2013](#)
- [October 2013](#)
- [September 2013](#)
- [August 2013](#)
- [June 2013](#)
- [May 2013](#)
- [April 2013](#)
- [March 2013](#)
- [February 2013](#)
- [January 2013](#)
- [December 2012](#)
- [November 2012](#)
- [October 2012](#)
- [September 2012](#)
- [August 2012](#)
- [July 2012](#)
- [June 2012](#)
- [May 2012](#)
- [April 2012](#)
- [March 2012](#)
- [January 2012](#)
- [December 2011](#)
- [November 2011](#)
- [October 2011](#)
- [September 2011](#)
- [August 2011](#)
- [July 2011](#)
- [April 2011](#)
- [March 2011](#)
- [February 2011](#)
- [January 2011](#)
- [December 2010](#)
- [November 2010](#)
- [October 2010](#)
- [September 2010](#)
- [August 2010](#)
- [July 2010](#)
- [June 2010](#)
- [May 2010](#)
- [April 2010](#)
- [March 2010](#)
- [February 2010](#)
- [January 2010](#)
- [December 2009](#)
- [November 2009](#)
- [October 2009](#)
- [September 2009](#)
- [August 2009](#)
- [July 2009](#)
- [June 2009](#)
- [May 2009](#)
- [March 2009](#)
- [February 2009](#)
- [January 2009](#)
- [December 2008](#)
- [November 2008](#)
- [October 2008](#)
- [September 2008](#)
- [August 2008](#)
- [July 2008](#)
- [June 2008](#)
- [May 2008](#)
- [April 2008](#)
- [March 2008](#)
- [February 2008](#)
- [January 2008](#)
- [December 2007](#)
- [November 2007](#)
- [October 2007](#)
- [September 2007](#)
- [August 2007](#)
- [July 2007](#)
- [June 2007](#)
- [May 2007](#)
- [April 2007](#)
- [March 2007](#)
- [February 2007](#)
- [January 2007](#)

### Categories

Select Category

[Blog at WordPress.com. The Chateau Theme.](#)

[Follow](#)

Follow “Kelly Tshibaka”

Get every new post delivered to your Inbox.

Join 907 other followers

Powered by [WordPress.com](#)

%6d bloggers like this:

- Kelly Tshibaka**

## ~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional

## Seeing Jesus in the Autumn

[✉ Leave a Comment](#)

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

Like Loading...

[← Previous post](#) [Next post →](#)

## Leave a Reply

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 907 other followers

- [Ministry Is Like Landing on Mars](#)
- [I Love Family Day](#)
- [Seeing Jesus in the Autumn](#)
- [\\$120 Appetizer](#)
- [Pecking Order of Geniuses](#)

- November 2013
- October 2013
- September 2013
- August 2013
- June 2013
- May 2013
- April 2013
- March 2013
- February 2013
- January 2013
- December 2012
- November 2012
- October 2012
- September 2012
- August 2012
- July 2012
- June 2012
- May 2012
- April 2012
- March 2012
- January 2012
- December 2011
- November 2011
- October 2011
- September 2011
- August 2011
- July 2011
- April 2011
- March 2011
- February 2011
- January 2011
- December 2010
- November 2010
- October 2010
- September 2010
- August 2010
- July 2010
- June 2010
- May 2010
- April 2010
- March 2010
- February 2010
- January 2010
- December 2009
- November 2009
- October 2009
- September 2009
- August 2009
- July 2009
- June 2009
- May 2009
- March 2009
- February 2009
- January 2009
- December 2008
- November 2008
- October 2008
- September 2008
- August 2008
- July 2008
- June 2008
- May 2008
- April 2008
- March 2008
- February 2008
- January 2008
- December 2007
- November 2007
- October 2007
- September 2007
- August 2007
- July 2007
- June 2007
- May 2007
- April 2007
- March 2007
- February 2007
- January 2007

Select Category

[Blog at WordPress.com.](#) [The Chateau Theme](#)

[Follow](#)

Get every new post delivered to your Inbox.

Join 907 other followers

Powered by [WordPress.com](#)  
 26 of 118 posts like this

%d bloggers like this:

%d bloggers like this:





DONATE

<http://www.facebook.com/sharer.php?u=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.itsyourturn.org>

## Latest

[Show All](#)

Hrm.

The Wayback Machine has not archived that URL.

This page is available on the web!

Help make the Wayback Machine more complete!

Save this url in the Wayback Machine

Click here to search for all archived pages under <http://www.facebook.com/>.



The Wayback Machine is an initiative of the Internet Archive, a 501(c)(3) non-profit building a digital library of Internet sites and other cultural artifacts in digital form. Other projects include Open Library & archive-it.org.

Your use of the Wayback Machine is subject to the Internet Archive's Terms of Use

## Share a link with your followers

The local churc... <http://wp.me/p2FfKS-mb> via @wordpressdotcom

Username or email

Sign in and Tweet

Password

☐ Remember me · [Forgot password?](#)

### New to Twitter?

[Sign up »](#)



Don't miss any updates from **WordPress.com**. Get your account today to stay up-to-date with your interests!

[What is Twitter? Learn more.](#)

- [About](#)
- [Resources](#)
- [Speaking](#)

## Kelly Tshibaka

### ~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional



[Quote](#)

### The local church...

24 *Thursday* Oct 2013

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [Uncategorized](#)

≈ **1 Comment**

The local church is like an aircraft carrier. We are deployed and anchored in strategic communities where we weekly train and then deploy to our workplaces, families, neighborhoods, schools. Many of us need to re-engage with the missional nature of our church by rejecting the notion that the local church is a cruise ship that we hop on and off at our leisure. Instead, we come to get filled and fueled to engage the world.

~Isaac Hovet, Pastor of Cottage Grove Faith Center

#### Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 


#### Like this:

Like Loading...

### Post navigation

[← Previous post](#) [Next post →](#)

#### 1 thought on “The local church...”

- 


Peg Travis *said*:

[October 25, 2013 at 1:12 am](#)

Kelly and Nickie what do you think of OBAMACARE?

[Reply](#)

### Leave a Reply



(Address is never shown publicly)

☐ Notify me of follow-up comments via email.

☐ Notify me of new posts via email.

Search:

### Follow Blog

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 907 other followers

### Recent Posts

- [Seeing Jesus in the Autumn](#)
- [\\$120 Appetizer](#)
- [Pecking Order of Genuses](#)
- [Jealousy is the Source of All Evil](#)
- [Bad Mexican](#)

### Archives

- [November 2013](#)
- [October 2013](#)
- [September 2013](#)
- [August 2013](#)
- [June 2013](#)
- [May 2013](#)
- [April 2013](#)
- [March 2013](#)
- [February 2013](#)
- [January 2013](#)
- [December 2012](#)
- [November 2012](#)
- [October 2012](#)
- [September 2012](#)
- [August 2012](#)
- [July 2012](#)
- [June 2012](#)
- [May 2012](#)
- [April 2012](#)
- [March 2012](#)
- [January 2012](#)
- [December 2011](#)
- [November 2011](#)
- [October 2011](#)
- [September 2011](#)
- [August 2011](#)
- [July 2011](#)
- [April 2011](#)
- [March 2011](#)
- [February 2011](#)
- [January 2011](#)
- [December 2010](#)
- [November 2010](#)
- [October 2010](#)
- [September 2010](#)
- [August 2010](#)
- [July 2010](#)
- [June 2010](#)
- [May 2010](#)
- [April 2010](#)
- [March 2010](#)
- [February 2010](#)
- [January 2010](#)
- [December 2009](#)
- [November 2009](#)
- [October 2009](#)
- [September 2009](#)
- [August 2009](#)
- [July 2009](#)
- [June 2009](#)
- [May 2009](#)
- [March 2009](#)
- [February 2009](#)
- [January 2009](#)
- [December 2008](#)
- [November 2008](#)
- [October 2008](#)
- [September 2008](#)
- [August 2008](#)
- [July 2008](#)
- [June 2008](#)
- [May 2008](#)
- [April 2008](#)
- [March 2008](#)
- [February 2008](#)
- [January 2008](#)
- [December 2007](#)
- [November 2007](#)
- [October 2007](#)
- [September 2007](#)
- [August 2007](#)
- [July 2007](#)
- [June 2007](#)
- [May 2007](#)
- [April 2007](#)
- [March 2007](#)
- [February 2007](#)
- [January 2007](#)

### Categories

Select Category

▼

[Blog at WordPress.com.](#) [The Chateau Theme.](#)

[Follow](#)

#### Follow “Kelly Tshibaka”

Get every new post delivered to your Inbox.

Join 907 other followers

Powered by [WordPress.com](#)

%d bloggers like this:



- [About](#)
- [Resources](#)
- [Speaking](#)

## Kelly Tshibaka

### ~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional

Search:



[Quote](#)

### The local church...

24 *Thursday* Oct 2013

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [Uncategorized](#)

≈ [1 Comment](#)

The local church is like an aircraft carrier. We are deployed and anchored in strategic communities where we weekly train and then deploy to our workplaces, families, neighborhoods, schools. Many of us need to re-engage with the missional nature of our church by rejecting the notion that the local church is a cruise ship that we hop on and off at our leisure. Instead, we come to get filled and fueled to engage the world.

~Isaac Hovet, Pastor of Cottage Grove Faith Center

#### Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 


#### Like this:

Like Loading...

### Post navigation

[← Previous post](#) [Next post →](#)

#### 1 thought on “The local church...”

- 

Peg Travis said:  
[October 25, 2013 at 1:12 am](#)  
Kelly and Nickie what do you think of OBAMACARE?  
[Reply](#)

### Leave a Reply



(Adding new comments)

☐ Notify me of follow-up comments via email.  
☐ Notify me of new posts via email.

Search:

### Follow Blog

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 907 other followers

### Recent Posts

- [Ministry Is Like Landing on Mars](#)
- [I Love Family Day](#)
- [Seeing Jesus in the Autumn](#)
- [\\$120 Appetizer](#)
- [Pecking Order of Geoluses](#)

### Archives

- [November 2013](#)
- [October 2013](#)
- [September 2013](#)
- [August 2013](#)
- [June 2013](#)
- [May 2013](#)
- [April 2013](#)
- [March 2013](#)
- [February 2013](#)
- [January 2013](#)
- [December 2012](#)
- [November 2012](#)
- [October 2012](#)
- [September 2012](#)
- [August 2012](#)
- [July 2012](#)
- [June 2012](#)
- [May 2012](#)
- [April 2012](#)
- [March 2012](#)
- [January 2012](#)
- [December 2011](#)
- [November 2011](#)
- [October 2011](#)
- [September 2011](#)
- [August 2011](#)
- [July 2011](#)
- [April 2011](#)
- [March 2011](#)
- [February 2011](#)
- [January 2011](#)
- [December 2010](#)
- [November 2010](#)
- [October 2010](#)
- [September 2010](#)
- [August 2010](#)
- [July 2010](#)
- [June 2010](#)
- [May 2010](#)
- [April 2010](#)
- [March 2010](#)
- [February 2010](#)
- [January 2010](#)
- [December 2009](#)
- [November 2009](#)
- [October 2009](#)
- [September 2009](#)
- [August 2009](#)
- [July 2009](#)
- [June 2009](#)
- [May 2009](#)
- [March 2009](#)
- [February 2009](#)
- [January 2009](#)
- [December 2008](#)
- [November 2008](#)
- [October 2008](#)
- [September 2008](#)
- [August 2008](#)
- [July 2008](#)
- [June 2008](#)
- [May 2008](#)
- [April 2008](#)
- [March 2008](#)
- [February 2008](#)
- [January 2008](#)
- [December 2007](#)
- [November 2007](#)
- [October 2007](#)
- [September 2007](#)
- [August 2007](#)
- [July 2007](#)
- [June 2007](#)
- [May 2007](#)
- [April 2007](#)
- [March 2007](#)
- [February 2007](#)
- [January 2007](#)

### Categories

Select Category ▼

[Blog at WordPress.com.](#) [The Chateau Theme.](#)

[Follow](#)

#### Follow “Kelly Tshibaka”

Get every new post delivered to your Inbox.

Join 907 other followers

Powered by [WordPress.com](#)

%d bloggers like this:

- [About](#)
- [Resources](#)
- [Speaking](#)

## [Kelly Tshibaka](#)

### ~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional

Search:



[Quote](#)

## The local church...

24 *Thursday* Oct 2013

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [Uncategorized](#)

≈ [1 Comment](#)

The local church is like an aircraft carrier. We are deployed and anchored in strategic communities where we weekly train and then deploy to our workplaces, families, neighborhoods, schools. Many of us need to re-engage with the missional nature of our church by rejecting the notion that the local church is a cruise ship that we hop on and off at our leisure. Instead, we come to get filled and fueled to engage the world.

~Isaac Hovet, Pastor of Cottage Grove Faith Center

#### Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 


#### Like this:

Like Loading...

### Post navigation

[← Previous post](#) [Next post →](#)

#### 1 thought on “The local church...”

- 

Peg Travis *said*:


[October 25, 2013 at 1:12 am](#)

Kelly and Nickie what do you think of OBAMACARE?

[Reply](#)

Leave a [Reply](#) to [Peg Travis](#)

[Cancel reply](#)



(Address never shown)

☐ Notify me of follow-up comments via email.

☐ Notify me of new posts via email.

Search:

### Follow Blog

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 907 other followers

### Recent Posts

- [Ministry Is Like Landing on Mars](#)
- [I Love Family Day](#)
- [Seeing Jesus in the Autumn](#)
- [\\$120 Appetizer](#)
- [Pecking Order of Geoluses](#)

### Archives

- [November 2013](#)
- [October 2013](#)
- [September 2013](#)
- [August 2013](#)
- [June 2013](#)
- [May 2013](#)
- [April 2013](#)
- [March 2013](#)
- [February 2013](#)
- [January 2013](#)
- [December 2012](#)
- [November 2012](#)
- [October 2012](#)
- [September 2012](#)
- [August 2012](#)
- [July 2012](#)
- [June 2012](#)
- [May 2012](#)
- [April 2012](#)
- [March 2012](#)
- [January 2012](#)
- [December 2011](#)
- [November 2011](#)
- [October 2011](#)
- [September 2011](#)
- [August 2011](#)
- [July 2011](#)
- [April 2011](#)
- [March 2011](#)
- [February 2011](#)
- [January 2011](#)
- [December 2010](#)
- [November 2010](#)
- [October 2010](#)
- [September 2010](#)
- [August 2010](#)
- [July 2010](#)
- [June 2010](#)
- [May 2010](#)
- [April 2010](#)
- [March 2010](#)
- [February 2010](#)
- [January 2010](#)
- [December 2009](#)
- [November 2009](#)
- [October 2009](#)
- [September 2009](#)
- [August 2009](#)
- [July 2009](#)
- [June 2009](#)
- [May 2009](#)
- [March 2009](#)
- [February 2009](#)
- [January 2009](#)
- [December 2008](#)
- [November 2008](#)
- [October 2008](#)
- [September 2008](#)
- [August 2008](#)
- [July 2008](#)
- [June 2008](#)
- [May 2008](#)
- [April 2008](#)
- [March 2008](#)
- [February 2008](#)
- [January 2008](#)
- [December 2007](#)
- [November 2007](#)
- [October 2007](#)
- [September 2007](#)
- [August 2007](#)
- [July 2007](#)
- [June 2007](#)
- [May 2007](#)
- [April 2007](#)
- [March 2007](#)
- [February 2007](#)
- [January 2007](#)

### Categories

Select Category ▼

[Blog at WordPress.com.](#) [The Chateau Theme.](#)

[Follow](#)

#### Follow “Kelly Tshibaka”

Get every new post delivered to your Inbox.

Join 907 other followers

Powered by [WordPress.com](#)

%d bloggers like this:

- [About](#)
- [Resources](#)
- [Speaking](#)

## Kelly Tshibaka

### ~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional

Search:



## Blog Archives

[Quote](#)

### [The local church...](#)

24 *Thursday* Oct 2013

Posted by [kishibaka](#) in [Uncategorized](#)

≈ [1 Comment](#)

The local church is like an aircraft carrier. We are deployed and anchored in strategic communities where we weekly train and then deploy to our workplaces, families, neighborhoods, schools. Many of us need to re-engage with the missional nature of our church by rejecting the notion that the local church is a cruise ship that we hop on and off at our leisure. Instead, we comt to get filled and fueled to engage the world.

~Isaac Hovet, Pastor of Cottage Grove Faith Center

**Share this:**

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

**Like this:**

Like Loading...

[Quote](#)

### [Jesus Doesn't Need Makeup](#)

17 *Thursday* Oct 2013

Posted by [kishibaka](#) in [Church](#), [deep thoughts](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

**Tags**

[Pastoring](#)

If you have to put makeup on Jesus, then you're making people fall in love with an image that doesn't exist. Jesus doesn't need makeup. And if He does, then there's a problem with our understanding of who He is and what His message is.

~Pastor Nikl Tshibaka

**Share this:**

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

**Like this:**

Like Loading...

[Quote](#)

### [More relationships...](#)

05 *Saturday* Oct 2013

Posted by [kishibaka](#) in [Uncategorized](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

More relationships are killed by passivity than abuse

**Share this:**

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

**Like this:**

Like Loading...

[Quote](#)

### [Texting While Life-ing](#)

07 *Friday* Jun 2013

Posted by [kishibaka](#) in [deep thoughts](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

Living in the past and living in the present is like texting while driving: you'll wreck the present.

**Share this:**

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

**Like this:**

Like Loading...

[Quote](#)

### [Co-Dependent](#)

05 *Wednesday* Jun 2013

Posted by [kishibaka](#) in [Uncategorized](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

A co-dependent is someone who right before they die, someone else's life flashes before their eyes.

~Dr. Henry Cloud

**Share this:**

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

**Like this:**

Like Loading...

[Quote](#)

### [Do Not Fear](#)

01 *Saturday* Jun 2013

Posted by [kishibaka](#) in [deep thoughts](#), [leadership](#), [ministry](#), [my other day job](#), [my spiritual journey](#), [spiritual truths](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

**Tags**

[Parenting](#), [Pastoring](#), [Professional](#)

Fear is not real. It's a choice. It lives in the thoughts we have about the future. It's a story we tell ourselves. I choose to tell myself a different story.

~After Earth

**Share this:**

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

**Like this:**

Like Loading...

[Quote](#)

### [Button's Heart for Justice](#)

19 *Monday* Nov 2012

Posted by [kishibaka](#) in [Uncategorized](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

**Tags**

[Parenting](#)

When Justice was born, he filled a place in my heart that was always empty and that was made just for him.

~Button

**Share this:**

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

**Like this:**

Like Loading...

[Quote](#)

### [On Pioneering](#)

31 *Friday* Aug 2012

Posted by [kishibaka](#) in [Uncategorized](#)

≈ [1 Comment](#)

**Tags**

[Ministry](#), [Pioneering](#)

"We are open to stability; we just don't feel called to it." ~Sonja Kelly

**Share this:**

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

**Like this:**

Like Loading...

[Quote](#)

### [Follow Blog](#)

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 907 other followers

### Recent Posts

- [Ministry Is Like Landing on Mars](#)
- [I Love Family Day](#)
- [Seeing Jesus in the Autumn](#)
- [\\$120 Appetizer](#)
- [Pecking Order of Geniuses](#)

### Archives

- [November 2013](#)
- [October 2013](#)
- [September 2013](#)
- [August 2013](#)
- [June 2013](#)
- [May 2013](#)
- [April 2013](#)
- [March 2013](#)
- [February 2013](#)
- [January 2013](#)
- [December 2012](#)
- [November 2012](#)
- [October 2012](#)
- [September 2012](#)
- [August 2012](#)
- [July 2012](#)
- [June 2012](#)
- [May 2012](#)
- [April 2012](#)
- [March 2012](#)
- [January 2012](#)
- [December 2011](#)
- [November 2011](#)
- [October 2011](#)
- [September 2011](#)
- [August 2011](#)
- [July 2011](#)
- [April 2011](#)
- [March 2011](#)
- [February 2011](#)
- [January 2011](#)
- [December 2010](#)
- [November 2010](#)
- [October 2010](#)
- [September 2010](#)
- [August 2010](#)
- [July 2010](#)
- [June 2010](#)
- [May 2010](#)
- [April 2010](#)
- [March 2010](#)
- [February 2010](#)
- [January 2010](#)
- [December 2009](#)
- [November 2009](#)
- [October 2009](#)
- [September 2009](#)
- [August 2009](#)
- [July 2009](#)
- [June 2009](#)
- [May 2009](#)
- [March 2009](#)
- [February 2009](#)
- [January 2009](#)
- [December 2008](#)
- [November 2008](#)
- [October 2008](#)
- [September 2008](#)
- [August 2008](#)
- [July 2008](#)
- [June 2008](#)
- [May 2008](#)
- [April 2008](#)
- [March 2008](#)
- [February 2008](#)
- [January 2008](#)
- [December 2007](#)
- [November 2007](#)
- [October 2007](#)
- [September 2007](#)
- [August 2007](#)
- [July 2007](#)
- [June 2007](#)
- [May 2007](#)
- [April 2007](#)
- [March 2007](#)
- [February 2007](#)
- [January 2007](#)

### Categories

Select Category

[Blog at WordPress.com](#). [The Chateau Theme](#).

[Follow](#)

**Follow "Kelly Tshibaka"**

Get every new post delivered to your Inbox.

Join 907 other followers

Powered by [WordPress.com](#)

%d bloggers like this:



DONATE

INTERNET ARCHIVE  
Wayback Machine

<http://www.linkedin.com/cws/share?token&isFramed=fa>

Latest

Show All

Hrm.

The Wayback Machine has not archived that URL.

This page is available on the web!

Help make the Wayback Machine more complete!

Save this url in the Wayback Machine

Click here to search for all archived pages under  
<http://www.linkedin.com/cws/>.



The Wayback Machine is an initiative of the Internet Archive, a 501(c)(3) non-profit building a digital library of Internet sites and other cultural artifacts in digital form. Other projects include Open Library & archive-it.org.

Your use of the Wayback Machine is subject to the Internet Archive's Terms of Use

DONATE



<http://www.pinterest.com/join/?next=/pin/create/button/>

Latest

Show All

Hrm.

The Wayback Machine has not archived that URL.

This page is available on the web!

Help make the Wayback Machine more complete!

Save this url in the Wayback Machine

Click here to search for all archived pages under  
<http://www.pinterest.com/join/>.



The Wayback Machine is an initiative of the Internet Archive, a 501(c)(3) non-profit building a digital library of Internet sites and other cultural artifacts in digital form. Other projects include Open Library & archive-it.org.

Your use of the Wayback Machine is subject to the Internet Archive's Terms of Use

- [About](#)
- [Resources](#)
- [Speaking](#)

## Kelly Tshibaka

### ~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional



## Monthly Archives: *November 2013*

### [Ministry Is Like Landing on Mars](#)

09 *Saturday* Nov 2013

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [discipling](#), [ministry](#), [my spiritual journey](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

#### Tags

[Pastoring](#)

I recently heard a NASA scientist explain what it was like to build the rover that landed on Mars. Before the successful landing that has made history, his team spent 8 years and a billion-plus dollars launching a rover that crashed on the surface of Mars.

An 8-year billion-dollar failure.

He vividly recalled the night his team learned they failed. Learned that a near decade of work had resulted in just another crater on Mars. He was so worried about their morale.

To his surprise, everyone on the team was fine with the failure—where else do you even get the *chance* to build Mars rovers? Of course there's a high risk of failure. Think of all the variables! But even knowing how it went, and how high the risks were, they would all do it again.

And they did.

That's how you have to think to do well in ministry. You have to be more curious and more excited about the opportunities ahead of you than the failures behind you. More excited about new people coming into your church than demoralized about those who left. More curious about new friends/partners than devastated by those who betrayed you.

And in so doing, you, too, can make history!

#### Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

#### Like this:

Like Loading...

### [I Love Family Day](#)

07 *Thursday* Nov 2013

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [balancing it all](#), [ministry](#), [my other day job](#), [my spiritual journey](#), [raising kids](#), [recommendations](#), [spiritual truths](#)

≈ [1 Comment](#)

#### Tags

[Parenting](#) [Professional Pastoring](#)

Family Day is our weekly sabbath. It's the day we do nothing. Well, nothing we don't want to do anyway. Anything that would complete the sentence, "Mama can't play with you, sweetie, because I have to \_\_\_\_" doesn't get done. There are six other days to do that. (Well most of the time—one time they forecasted the first freeze of the year that night and I decided not to drain the pipes because it was Family Day and...well... it turns out I DID need to drain the pipes that day...)

ANY case—this is my retirement, lived one day a week, spread out over my lifetime. And I love it!

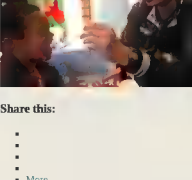
Some Family Day/Sabbath guidelines for me:

- a. No email or news programs — they stress me out
- b. No “have to get” shopping, but totally go for fun shopping
- c. Eat good food. Period. No diets and no fasting!
- d. Do no dishes

One Family Day, we slept in 2 hours later than normal, made a yummy breakfast, watched cartoons, played outside, picked up subs and went to the Old Town pier for a picnic lunch, got ice cream at Ben and Jerry's, bought me some fantastically beautiful and comfortable new sandals, played tag with the kids in the park, had nap/video game/quiet time, made iced tea (thank you Kim), played peekaboo with Baby, took photos, prayed, found white stones, watched a movie as a family, and had Lorrel come spend the night with us.

Best day ever.

Until next week : D



#### Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

#### Like this:

Like Loading...

[Image](#)

### [Seeing Jesus in the Autumn](#)

03 *Sunday* Nov 2013



#### Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

#### Like this:

Like Loading...

Posted by [kshibaka](#) | Filed under [spiritual truths](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

### [\\$120 Appetizer](#)

01 *Friday* Nov 2013

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [funny](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

Only in DC



#### Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

#### Like this:

Like Loading...

Search:

### Follow Blog

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 907 other followers

### Recent Posts

- [Ministry Is Like Landing on Mars](#)
- [I Love Family Day](#)
- [Seeing Jesus in the Autumn](#)
- [\\$120 Appetizer](#)
- [Pecking Order of Geoluses](#)

### Archives

- [November 2013](#)
- [October 2013](#)
- [September 2013](#)
- [August 2013](#)
- [June 2013](#)
- [May 2013](#)
- [April 2013](#)
- [March 2013](#)
- [February 2013](#)
- [January 2013](#)
- [December 2012](#)
- [November 2012](#)
- [October 2012](#)
- [September 2012](#)
- [August 2012](#)
- [July 2012](#)
- [June 2012](#)
- [May 2012](#)
- [April 2012](#)
- [March 2012](#)
- [January 2012](#)
- [December 2011](#)
- [November 2011](#)
- [October 2011](#)
- [September 2011](#)
- [August 2011](#)
- [July 2011](#)
- [April 2011](#)
- [March 2011](#)
- [February 2011](#)
- [January 2011](#)
- [December 2010](#)
- [November 2010](#)
- [October 2010](#)
- [September 2010](#)
- [August 2010](#)
- [July 2010](#)
- [June 2010](#)
- [May 2010](#)
- [April 2010](#)
- [March 2010](#)
- [February 2010](#)
- [January 2010](#)
- [December 2009](#)
- [November 2009](#)
- [October 2009](#)
- [September 2009](#)
- [August 2009](#)
- [July 2009](#)
- [June 2009](#)
- [May 2009](#)
- [March 2009](#)
- [February 2009](#)
- [January 2009](#)
- [December 2008](#)
- [November 2008](#)
- [October 2008](#)
- [September 2008](#)
- [August 2008](#)
- [July 2008](#)
- [June 2008](#)
- [May 2008](#)
- [April 2008](#)
- [March 2008](#)
- [February 2008](#)
- [January 2008](#)
- [December 2007](#)
- [November 2007](#)
- [October 2007](#)
- [September 2007](#)
- [August 2007](#)
- [July 2007](#)
- [June 2007](#)
- [May 2007](#)
- [April 2007](#)
- [March 2007](#)
- [February 2007](#)
- [January 2007](#)

### Categories

Select Category

[Blog at WordPress.com.](#) [The Chateau Theme.](#)

[Follow](#)

### Follow “Kelly Tshibaka”

Get every new post delivered to your Inbox.

Join 907 other followers

Powered by [WordPress.com](#)

%d bloggers like this:



This XML file does not appear to have any style information associated with it. The document tree is shown below.

```
▼<rss xmlns:content="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/content/" xmlns:dc="http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/" xmlns:atom="http://www.w3.org/2005/Atom"
xmlns:sy="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/syndication/" xmlns:georss="http://www.georss.org/georss" xmlns:geo="http://www.w3.org/2003/01/geo/wgs84_pos#"
xmlns:media="http://search.yahoo.com/mrss/" version="2.0">
▼<channel>
  <title>Comments on: The local church</title>
  <atom:link href="http://kellytshibaka.com/2013/10/24/the-local-church/feed/" rel="self" type="application/rss+xml"/>
  ▼<link>
    http://kellytshibaka.com/2013/10/24/the-local-church/
  </link>
  ▼<description>
    Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional
  </description>
  <lastBuildDate>Fri, 25 Oct 2013 05:12:18 +0000</lastBuildDate>
  <sy:updatePeriod>hourly</sy:updatePeriod>
  <sy:updateFrequency>1</sy:updateFrequency>
  <generator>http://wordpress.com/</generator>
  ▼<item>
    <title>By: Peg Travis</title>
    ▼<link>
      http://kellytshibaka.com/2013/10/24/the-local-church/comment-page-1/#comment-751
    </link>
    ▼<dc:creator>
      <![CDATA[ Peg Travis ]]>
    </dc:creator>
    <pubDate>Fri, 25 Oct 2013 05:12:18 +0000</pubDate>
    <guid isPermaLink="false">http://kellytshibaka.com/?p=1375#comment-751</guid>
    ▼<description>
      <![CDATA[ Kelly and Nickie what do you think of OBAMACARE? ]]>
    </description>
    ▼<content:encoded>
      ▼<![CDATA[
        <p>Kelly and Nickie what do you think of OBAMACARE?</p>
      ]]>
    </content:encoded>
  </item>
</channel>
</rss>
```

This XML file does not appear to have any style information associated with it. The document tree is shown below.

```
▼<rss xmlns:content="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/content/" xmlns:dc="http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/" xmlns:atom="http://www.w3.org/2005/Atom"
xmlns:sy="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/syndication/" xmlns:georss="http://www.georss.org/georss" xmlns:geo="http://www.w3.org/2003/01/geo/wgs84_pos#"
xmlns:media="http://search.yahoo.com/mrss/" version="2.0">
▼<channel>
  <title>Comments on: Bad Mexican</title>
  <atom:link href="http://kellytshibaka.com/2013/10/26/bad-mexican/feed/" rel="self" type="application/rss+xml"/>
  <link>http://kellytshibaka.com/2013/10/26/bad-mexican/</link>
  ▼<description>
    Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional
  </description>
  <lastBuildDate>Fri, 25 Oct 2013 05:12:18 +0000</lastBuildDate>
  <sy:updatePeriod>hourly</sy:updatePeriod>
  <sy:updateFrequency>1</sy:updateFrequency>
  <generator>http://wordpress.com/</generator>
</channel>
</rss>
```





DONATE



<http://www.pinterest.com/join/?next=/pin/create/button/>

Latest

Show All

Hrm.

The Wayback Machine has not archived that URL.

This page is available on the web!

Help make the Wayback Machine more complete!

Save this url in the Wayback Machine

Click here to search for all archived pages under  
<http://www.pinterest.com/join/>.



The Wayback Machine is an initiative of the Internet Archive, a 501(c)(3) non-profit building a digital library of Internet sites and other cultural artifacts in digital form. Other projects include Open Library & archive-it.org.

Your use of the Wayback Machine is subject to the Internet Archive's Terms of Use



DONATE



<http://www.facebook.com/sharer.php?u=http%3A%2F%>

## Latest

[Show All](#)

Hrm.

The Wayback Machine has not archived that URL.

This page is available on the web!

Help make the Wayback Machine more complete!

Save this url in the Wayback Machine

Click here to search for all archived pages under <http://www.facebook.com/>.



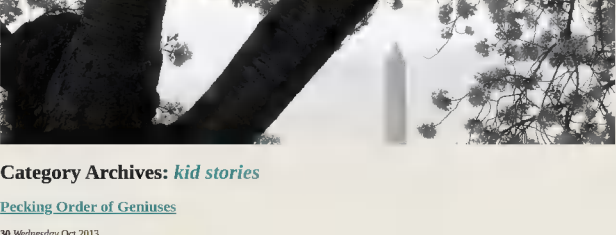
The Wayback Machine is an initiative of the Internet Archive, a 501(c)(3) non-profit building a digital library of Internet sites and other cultural artifacts in digital form. Other projects include Open Library & archive-it.org.

Your use of the Wayback Machine is subject to the Internet Archive's Terms of Use

- [About](#)
- [Resources](#)
- [Speaking](#)

## Kelly Tshibaka

### ~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional



## Category Archives: *kid stories*

### [Pecking Order of Geniuses](#)

**30** *Wednesday* Oct 2013

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [kid stories](#), [raising kids](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

**Tags**

[Parenting](#)

Button was sitting at the table doing some math homework. My parents were there, as was Niki and Siah. She handed me her homework to correct. Now, in the immediate family, I'm the best at math. I tell the kids I'm a math whiz, so don't let math scare them — they've got math whiz brain in them, too. And my mom is even more of a math whiz than me — In fact, she built a career around it.

So I was surprised, and a bit indignant, when I told Button she got a problem wrong and she challenged me. I quickly retorted, "In the pecking order of geniuses in this family, where do you think you stand?" I then proceeded to work through the problem step-by-step with her...only to catch my error and prove that SHE was right.

Button looked at me with THAT look, but didn't dare say what she was thinking. She didn't have to...my mom was there: "Ha! In the pecking order of geniuses, where do YOU stand, Kelly?!"

**Share this:**

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

**Like this:**

Like Loading...

### [Bad Mexican](#)

**26** *Saturday* Oct 2013

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [kid stories](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

**Tags**

[kid stories](#), [Parenting](#)

Button used magnetic shapes to build a fort. "It's the Alamo!" she proudly declared.

In true brother fashion, Siah promptly goes over and knocks it down.

She stares at him matter-of-factly and issues her indictment: "You're just a bad Mexican."

**Share this:**

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

**Like this:**

Like Loading...

### [Bath time, cuddling with Papa, and soccer with Sissy.](#)

**08** *Tuesday* Oct 2013

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [kid stories](#), [Uncategorized](#)

≈ [1 Comment](#)



**Share this:**

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

**Like this:**

Like Loading...

### [Harley Fans](#)

**15** *Thursday* Aug 2013

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [funny](#), [kid stories](#), [personal](#), [raising kids](#)

≈ [1 Comment](#)

**Tags**

[Parenting](#)

My parents were bikers. They were going to name me Harley if I was a boy...

I grew up a Harley girl. Played for the House of Harley ice hockey team. Hope to get a bike one day (waiting for Niki to be ok with it).

So imagine my delight when Button just said to me, "When I grow up I'm going to marry a guy whose last name is Davidson. And then I'm going to name my daughter Harley!"

You go girl!

**Share this:**

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

**Like this:**

Like Loading...

### [My Dad's Take on Raising Me](#)

**13** *Tuesday* Aug 2013

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [funny](#), [kid stories](#), [raising kids](#)

≈ [2 Comments](#)

**Tags**

[Parenting](#)

I was telling my dad how I'll need a vacation after this vacation just to get a break from the kids.

He laughed and said, "Yeah, but then they grow up and move away and marry people and then you think, 'Man, I really miss my kids.'"

"And then they come home and visit and tell you what they're going to do with you when you're old..."

**Share this:**

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

**Like this:**

Like Loading...

### [Button wants a Brother—I Kid You Not](#)

**12** *Monday* Aug 2013

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [kid stories](#)

≈ [1 Comment](#)

**Tags**

[Parenting](#)

The kids don't know I'm pregnant, so it was interesting when Button used sign language to tell me she wanted another baby.

I asked her if she wanted a brother or sister. She said either. Then she said, "a brother would be awesome, but if we have a girl, she'll have to sleep in the hall cause she's not sleeping in MY room!"

**Share this:**

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

**Like this:**

Like Loading...

### [Siah and the Pillow Fight](#)

**02** *Friday* Aug 2013

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [funny](#), [kid stories](#)

≈ [1 Comment](#)

Siah took my dad's "rice sack" pillow to camp. It literally feels like a sack of rice. So when the camp counselors announced a friendly game of pillow fight, Siah had a distinct advantage! He was walloping kids with a sack of rice, knocking em down left and right all around the cabin!!! Hysterical! You should have seen the glint in his eye and dimples on his cheek when he told me!

**Share this:**

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

**Like this:**

Like Loading...

### [She "Sings" Like Me](#)

**12** *Wednesday* Jun 2013

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [funny](#), [kid stories](#), [raising kids](#)

≈ [2 Comments](#)

**Tags**

[Parenting](#)

Button's grades have been dropping in music. So I asked her how it was going.

"Oh, great!" she said. "Before I just sang normally like all the other kids. But now I'm getting really good!"

"Oh, really?"

"Yes! Now when I sing, everyone else just stops and stares at me in disbelief! I'm so good, they can't even bear to sing along with me! They just HAVE to watch me!"

Oh, she's just like her mother...

**Share this:**

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

**Like this:**

Like Loading...

### [Her First F-Bomb](#)

**10** *Monday* Jun 2013

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [funny](#), [kid stories](#), [raising kids](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

**Tags**

[Parenting](#)

"What does f\*#@% mean, Mom?"

Wow. There it was. Just like that, 8 years old.

I stared blankly, trying to appear unfazed.

"The kids at school are saying it. What does it mean?"

"It's a very bad word."

"Oh, like 'shut up' and 'stupid'?"

Laughing in disbelief, "No, not at all like 'shut up' and 'stupid'. It's worse. Much, much worse. There are different levels of bad words, and that one is one of the worst. It's so bad you should never say it ever."

"Okay, but why? What does it mean?"

Oh, I so don't want to have this talk with her. I don't want to be the pin that keeps bursting her bubble of innocence. But even more than that, I don't want her being exposed to stuff at school and elsewhere without having the tools or framework of our worldview through which to filter it. So, if she's talking about it, she's been exposed to it. And I want to be the one she gets the truth from so she keeps coming to me with these things.

So I decided to tell it to her straight. "It's a very crude and derogatory word for sex."

"Ewww! Why would they be saying that?!"

"I don't know, Button. They probably heard it somewhere and know it's bad, but they don't know how bad or what it means. Just don't say it."

"Okay, Mama, I WON'T!"

**Share this:**

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

**Like this:**

Like Loading...

### [Then There Were Two](#)

**13** *Monday* May 2013

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [discipling](#), [kid stories](#), [raising kids](#)

≈ [1 Comment](#)

**Tags**

[Parenting](#), [Pastoring](#)



Niki told me that on the drive to school,

Button asked him, "Daddy, when we are in the car with you, can you please not listen to the news? We would like to spend this time talking with you instead."

Niki said he was so impressed with how maturely she handled herself. "She sounded just like you," he said. Then he smiled and rolled his eyes. "Then there were two!"

**Share this:**

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

**Like this:**

Like Loading...

← [Older posts](#)

Search:

### Follow Blog

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 907 other followers

### Recent Posts

- [Ministry Is Like Landing on Mars](#)
- [I Leave Family Day](#)
- [Seeing Jesus in the Autumn](#)
- [\\$120 Appetizer](#)
- [Pecking Order of Geniuses](#)

### Archives

- [November 2013](#)
- [October 2013](#)
- [September 2013](#)
- [August 2013](#)
- [June 2013](#)
- [May 2013](#)
- [April 2013](#)
- [March 2013](#)
- [February 2013](#)
- [January 2013](#)
- [December 2012](#)
- [November 2012](#)
- [October 2012](#)
- [September 2012](#)
- [August 2012](#)
- [July 2012](#)
- [June 2012](#)
- [May 2012](#)
- [April 2012](#)
- [March 2012](#)
- [January 2012](#)
- [December 2011](#)
- [November 2011](#)
- [October 2011](#)
- [September 2011](#)
- [August 2011](#)
- [July 2011](#)
- [April 2011](#)
- [March 2011](#)
- [February 2011](#)
- [January 2011](#)
- [December 2010](#)
- [November 2010](#)
- [October 2010](#)
- [September 2010](#)
- [August 2010](#)
- [July 2010](#)
- [June 2010](#)
- [May 2010](#)
- [April 2010](#)
- [March 2010](#)
- [February 2010](#)
- [January 2010](#)
- [December 2009](#)
- [November 2009](#)
- [October 2009](#)
- [September 2009](#)
- [August 2009](#)
- [July 2009](#)
- [June 2009](#)
- [May 2009](#)
- [March 2009](#)
- [February 2009](#)
- [January 2009](#)
- [December 2008](#)
- [November 2008](#)
- [October 2008](#)
- [September 2008](#)
- [August 2008](#)
- [July 2008](#)
- [June 2008](#)
- [May 2008](#)
- [April 2008](#)
- [March 2008](#)
- [February 2008](#)
- [January 2008](#)
- [December 2007](#)
- [November 2007](#)
- [October 2007](#)
- [September 2007](#)
- [August 2007](#)
- [July 2007](#)
- [June 2007](#)
- [May 2007](#)
- [April 2007](#)
- [March 2007](#)
- [February 2007](#)
- [January 2007](#)

### Categories

Blog at [WordPress.com](#). [The Chateau Theme](#).

[Follow](#)

### Follow "Kelly Tshibaka"

Get every new post delivered to your Inbox.

Join 907 other followers

Powered by [WordPress](#)

96d bloggers like this:



## Share a link with your followers

Bad Mexican <http://wp.me/p2FfKS-md> via @wordpressdotcom

Username or email

Sign in and Tweet

Password

☐ Remember me · [Forgot password?](#)

### New to Twitter?

Sign up »



Don't miss any updates from **WordPress.com**. Get your account today to stay up-to-date with your interests!

[What is Twitter?](#) [Learn more.](#)

DONATE



<http://www.linkedin.com/cws/share?token&isFramed=fz>

Latest

Show All

Hrm.

The Wayback Machine has not archived that URL.

This page is available on the web!

Help make the Wayback Machine more complete!

Save this url in the Wayback Machine

Click here to search for all archived pages under  
<http://www.linkedin.com/cws/>.



The Wayback Machine is an initiative of the Internet Archive, a 501(c)(3) non-profit building a digital library of Internet sites and other cultural artifacts in digital form. Other projects include Open Library & archive-it.org.

Your use of the Wayback Machine is subject to the Internet Archive's Terms of Use

- [About](#)
- [Resources](#)
- [Speaking](#)

## Kelly Tshibaka

~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional

Search:



### Bad Mexican

26 Saturday Oct 2013

Posted by [kushibaka](#) in [kid stories](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

#### Tags

[kid stories](#), [Parenting](#)

Button used magnetic shapes to build a fort. "It's the Alamo!" she proudly declared.

In true brother fashion, Siah promptly goes over and knocks it down.

She stares at him matter-of-factly and issues her indictment: "You're just a bad Mexican."

#### Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

#### Like this:

Like Loading...

### Post navigation

[← Previous post](#) [Next post →](#)

#### Leave a Reply

☐ Notify me of follow-up comments via email.

☐ Notify me of new posts via email.

Search:

### Follow Blog

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 909 other followers

### Recent Posts

- [Niki Made My Laugh Holy](#)
- [Ministry Is Like Landing on Mars](#)
- [I Love Family Day](#)
- [Seeing Jesus in the Autumn](#)
- [\\$120 Appetizer](#)

### Archives

- [November 2013](#)
- [October 2013](#)
- [September 2013](#)
- [August 2013](#)
- [June 2013](#)
- [May 2013](#)
- [April 2013](#)
- [March 2013](#)
- [February 2013](#)
- [January 2013](#)
- [December 2012](#)
- [November 2012](#)
- [October 2012](#)
- [September 2012](#)
- [August 2012](#)
- [July 2012](#)
- [June 2012](#)
- [May 2012](#)
- [April 2012](#)
- [March 2012](#)
- [January 2012](#)
- [December 2011](#)
- [November 2011](#)
- [October 2011](#)
- [September 2011](#)
- [August 2011](#)
- [July 2011](#)
- [April 2011](#)
- [March 2011](#)
- [February 2011](#)
- [January 2011](#)
- [December 2010](#)
- [November 2010](#)
- [October 2010](#)
- [September 2010](#)
- [August 2010](#)
- [July 2010](#)
- [June 2010](#)
- [May 2010](#)
- [April 2010](#)
- [March 2010](#)
- [February 2010](#)
- [January 2010](#)
- [December 2009](#)
- [November 2009](#)
- [October 2009](#)
- [September 2009](#)
- [August 2009](#)
- [July 2009](#)
- [June 2009](#)
- [May 2009](#)
- [March 2009](#)
- [February 2009](#)
- [January 2009](#)
- [December 2008](#)
- [November 2008](#)
- [October 2008](#)
- [September 2008](#)
- [August 2008](#)
- [July 2008](#)
- [June 2008](#)
- [May 2008](#)
- [April 2008](#)
- [March 2008](#)
- [February 2008](#)
- [January 2008](#)
- [December 2007](#)
- [November 2007](#)
- [October 2007](#)
- [September 2007](#)
- [August 2007](#)
- [July 2007](#)
- [June 2007](#)
- [May 2007](#)
- [April 2007](#)
- [March 2007](#)
- [February 2007](#)
- [January 2007](#)

### Categories

Select Category

[Blog at WordPress.com.](#) [The Chateau Theme.](#)

[Follow](#)

#### Follow “Kelly Tshibaka”

Get every new post delivered to your Inbox.

Join 909 other followers

Powered by [WordPress.com](#)

%d bloggers like this:



- [About](#)
- [Resources](#)
- [Speaking](#)

# Kelly Tshibaka

~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional

Search:

Go



## Tag Archives: *kid stories*

### Bad Mexican

26 Saturday Oct 2013

Posted by [ktshibaka](#) in [kid stories](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

#### Tags

[kid stories](#), [Parenting](#)

Button used magnetic shapes to build a fort. “It’s the Alamo!” she proudly declared.

In true brother fashion, Siah promptly goes over and knocks it down.

She stares at him matter-of-factly and issues her indictment: “You’re just a bad Mexican.”

#### Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

#### Like this:

Like Loading...

Search:

Go

### Follow Blog

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 907 other followers

Follow

### Recent Posts

- [Ministry Is Like Landing on Mars](#)
- [I Love Family Day](#)
- [Seeing Jesus in the Autumn](#)
- [\\$120 Appetizer](#)
- [Pecking Order of Geniuses](#)

### Archives

- [November 2013](#)
- [October 2013](#)
- [September 2013](#)
- [August 2013](#)
- [June 2013](#)
- [May 2013](#)
- [April 2013](#)
- [March 2013](#)
- [February 2013](#)
- [January 2013](#)
- [December 2012](#)
- [November 2012](#)
- [October 2012](#)
- [September 2012](#)
- [August 2012](#)
- [July 2012](#)
- [June 2012](#)
- [May 2012](#)
- [April 2012](#)
- [March 2012](#)
- [January 2012](#)
- [December 2011](#)
- [November 2011](#)
- [October 2011](#)
- [September 2011](#)
- [August 2011](#)
- [July 2011](#)
- [April 2011](#)
- [March 2011](#)
- [February 2011](#)
- [January 2011](#)
- [December 2010](#)
- [November 2010](#)
- [October 2010](#)
- [September 2010](#)
- [August 2010](#)
- [July 2010](#)
- [June 2010](#)
- [May 2010](#)
- [April 2010](#)
- [March 2010](#)
- [February 2010](#)
- [January 2010](#)
- [December 2009](#)
- [November 2009](#)
- [October 2009](#)
- [September 2009](#)
- [August 2009](#)
- [July 2009](#)
- [June 2009](#)
- [May 2009](#)
- [March 2009](#)
- [February 2009](#)
- [January 2009](#)
- [December 2008](#)
- [November 2008](#)
- [October 2008](#)
- [September 2008](#)
- [August 2008](#)
- [July 2008](#)
- [June 2008](#)
- [May 2008](#)
- [April 2008](#)
- [March 2008](#)
- [February 2008](#)
- [January 2008](#)
- [December 2007](#)
- [November 2007](#)
- [October 2007](#)
- [September 2007](#)
- [August 2007](#)
- [July 2007](#)
- [June 2007](#)
- [May 2007](#)
- [April 2007](#)
- [March 2007](#)
- [February 2007](#)
- [January 2007](#)

### Categories

Select Category

[Blog at WordPress.com.](#) [The Chateau Theme.](#)

[Follow](#)

#### Follow “Kelly Tshibaka”

Get every new post delivered to your Inbox.

Join 907 other followers

Enter your email address

Sign me up

Powered by [WordPress.com](#)

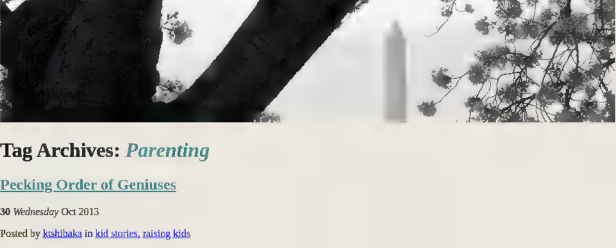
%d bloggers like this:

- [About](#)
- [Resources](#)
- [Speaking](#)

## Kelly Tshibaka

### ~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional

Search:



## Tag Archives: *Parenting*

### [Pecking Order of Geniuses](#)

30 *Wednesday* Oct 2013

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [kid stories](#), [raising kids](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

**Tags**

[Parenting](#)

Button was sitting at the table doing some math homework. My parents were there, as was Nikl and Slah. She handed me her homework to correct. Now, in the immediate family, I'm the best at math. I tell the kids I'm a math whiz, so don't let math scare them — they've got math whiz brain in them, too. And my mom is even more of a math whiz than me — in fact, she built a career around it.

So I was surprised, and a bit indignant, when I told Button she got a problem wrong and she challenged me. I quickly retorted, "In the pecking order of geniuses in this family, where do you think you stand?!" I then proceeded to work through the problem step-by-step with her...only to catch my error and prove that SHE was right.

Button looked at me with THAT look, but didn't dare say what she was thinking. She didn't have to...my mom was there: "Ha! In the pecking order of geniuses, where do YOU stand, Kelly?!"

**Share this:**

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

**Like this:**

Like Loading...

### [Bad Mexican](#)

26 *Saturday* Oct 2013

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [kid stories](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

**Tags**

[kid stories](#), [Parenting](#)

Button used magnetic shapes to build a fort. "It's the Alamo!" she proudly declared.

In true brother fashion, Slah promptly goes over and knocks it down.

She stares at him matter-of-factly and issues her indictment: "You're just a bad Mexican."

**Share this:**

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

**Like this:**

Like Loading...

### [Racism and Kids](#)

19 *Saturday* Oct 2013

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [raising kids](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

**Tags**

[Parenting](#)

I love our United Colors of Benetton interracial family. I love how we each live Michael Jackson's principal "I won't spend my life being a color." And I knew we'd have to face our fair share of race issues as the kids grew up—issues people outside our family impose on us. Guess that time has started.

One of our kids has been brutally picked on this school year. We are in a new school—a great school that's also predominantly black. We figure the animus is triggered by jealousy—our kid is doing great academically.

But today our child found out the ring leader of the meanness is targeting our child because "s/he's white." Our child told the informant, "What do you mean? I'm half black!" To which the informant responded "No, you're not. You're white."

And so it begins.

**Share this:**

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

**Like this:**

Like Loading...

### [Payback](#)

11 *Friday* Oct 2013

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [Uncategorized](#)

≈ [2 Comments](#)

**Tags**

[Parenting](#)

Button came home with the form to run for a student council position. The essays are due Monday, the posters are due next week, and the infamous school wide speech is at the end of next week.

Sigh. This sudden campaign decision has totally hijacked my weekend.

When I shared this with Nikl, he laughed a little \*too\* loudly. "Isn't it awesome that God gave you a daughter who's as Type A as you! Now you're getting to go through everything you put your mom through! Ha Ha! Payback!"

**Share this:**

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

**Like this:**

Like Loading...

### [Best Advice I've Received on How to Live Well](#)

17 *Saturday* Aug 2013

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [deep thoughts](#), [giving thanks](#), [ministry](#), [my spiritual journey](#), [spiritual truths](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

**Tags**

[Parenting](#), [Pastoring](#), [Pioneering](#), [Professional](#)

"Any day spent loving God and loving people is a day well lived." —Stephen Norberg, Foursquare church planter. If at the end of my life I can look back and say that every day of my life I loved God and loved people, then I've lived life well. One way I love God is through giving thanks: delighting in the gifts of now, like soap bubbles glistening, a dad's passing smile, or a friend's hug. As a spiritual practice, I keep a gratitude journal: a list of things for which I'm thankful. I'm up to more than 1,000!

**Share this:**

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

**Like this:**

Like Loading...

### [Harley Fans](#)

15 *Thursday* Aug 2013

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [funny](#), [kid stories](#), [personal](#), [raising kids](#)

≈ [1 Comment](#)

**Tags**

[Parenting](#)

My parents were bikers. They were going to name me Harley if I was a boy...

I grew up a Harley girl. Played for the House of Harley ice hockey team. Hope to get a bike one day (waiting for Nikl to be ok with it).

So imagine my delight when Button just said to me, "When I grow up I'm going to marry a guy whose last name is Davidson. And then I'm going to name my daughter Harley!"

You go girl!

**Share this:**

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

**Like this:**

Like Loading...

### [My Dad's Take on Raising Me](#)

13 *Tuesday* Aug 2013

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [funny](#), [kid stories](#), [raising kids](#)

≈ [2 Comments](#)

**Tags**

[Parenting](#)

I was telling my dad how I'll need a vacation after this vacation just to get a break from the kids.

He laughed and said, "Yeah, but then they grow up and move away and marry people and then you think, 'Man, I really miss my kids.'"

"And then they come home and visit and tell you what they're going to do with you when you're old..."

**Share this:**

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

**Like this:**

Like Loading...

### [Nailed It](#)

10 *Saturday* Aug 2013

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [personal](#)

≈ [2 Comments](#)

**Tags**

[Parenting](#)

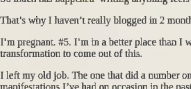
Papa was teaching the kids archery. They did really well. I hadn't tried it since camp as a kid, but when the kids challenged me and wanted to see if I could beat them, I couldn't resist!

I stood about 30' away, where they'd been shooting from, and nailed a bullseye. And then again!

"Oh, yeah, mom?! Try it from back there!!" They pointed about 75' away where the trees were. "Okay!"

I lined up the shot and — thwang — nailed it again! Even better than before.

Ha ha ha, take that kids! "Oh, mom! You're good at EVERYTHING." That's probably the first time anyone's ever said that about me, so you know what? I let it stand. I mean, how do you refute three bullseyes in a row?!



**Share this:**

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

**Like this:**

Like Loading...

### [Oh What a Couple Months It's Been](#)

09 *Friday* Aug 2013

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [balancing it all](#), [deep thoughts](#), [ministry](#), [miscarriage](#), [my other day job](#), [my spiritual journey](#), [personal](#), [raising kids](#), [women's topics](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

**Tags**

[Parenting](#), [Pioneering](#), [Professional](#)

So much has happened—writing anything feels overwhelming. So much to say, might as well not say anything.

That's why I haven't really blogged in 2 months

I'm pregnant. #5. I'm in a better place than I was, but this is unexpected. And came with waves of fear, anger, resentment, confusion, and peace. Sigh. I'm hoping for a beautiful inner transformation to come out of this.

I left my old job. The one that did a number on me. Closing out was a sprint. And sad—just as anti-climactic as I anticipated. Walking out of the building I experienced some of the same deliverance manifestations I've had on occasion in the past. Fascinating.

Got a great new job. They like me. They defer to me and trust me. It's nice. I'm in the office two days a week, work from home one. My commute is half what it was. Amazing.

Moved into our new house in June. Love it. Well I will when we are settled. We've moved four times since Dec. so we couldn't be unpacked, ORGANIZED, and settled in any quicker.

So it didn't help when I spent most of July in the couch soooo sick with morning sickness. Far worse than ever before. I literally couldn't move without losing my stomach. Ugh.

I'm at 12 weeks today. So this morning I'm feeling better about the idea that I won't miscarry this one like I did two times ago. And excited that the morning sickness is at an end. And getting happier about having a ginormous family. : )

Guess I'm learning to surrender. Again. I thought we were on one plan, going a certain way, including a path of four kids and reduced expenses—enough that I could focus more on ministry and being with the family. I'm slowly coming to grips with that not being God's plan. At least for the foreseeable future. I trust His plan is better, but it has thrown me for a bit of a loop.

It's been a year of unexpecteds.

**Share this:**

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

**Like this:**

Like Loading...

[← Older posts](#)

Search:

### Follow Blog

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 907 other followers

### Recent Posts

- [Ministry Is Like Landing on Mars](#)
- [I Love Family Day](#)
- [Seeing Jesus in the Autumn](#)
- [\\$120 Angerize](#)
- [Pecking Order of Geniuses](#)

### Archives

- [November 2013](#)
- [October 2013](#)
- [September 2013](#)
- [August 2013](#)
- [June 2013](#)
- [May 2013](#)
- [April 2013](#)
- [March 2013](#)
- [February 2013](#)
- [January 2013](#)
- [December 2012](#)
- [November 2012](#)
- [October 2012](#)
- [September 2012](#)
- [August 2012](#)
- [July 2012](#)
- [June 2012](#)
- [May 2012](#)
- [April 2012](#)
- [March 2012](#)
- [January 2012](#)
- [December 2011](#)
- [November 2011](#)
- [October 2011](#)
- [September 2011](#)
- [August 2011](#)
- [July 2011](#)
- [April 2011](#)
- [March 2011](#)
- [February 2011](#)
- [January 2011](#)
- [December 2010](#)
- [November 2010](#)
- [October 2010](#)
- [September 2010](#)
- [August 2010](#)
- [July 2010](#)
- [June 2010](#)
- [May 2010](#)
- [April 2010](#)
- [March 2010](#)
- [February 2010](#)
- [January 2010](#)
- [December 2009](#)
- [November 2009](#)
- [October 2009](#)
- [September 2009](#)
- [August 2009](#)
- [July 2009](#)
- [June 2009](#)
- [May 2009](#)
- [March 2009](#)
- [February 2009](#)
- [January 2009](#)
- [December 2008](#)
- [November 2008](#)
- [October 2008](#)
- [September 2008](#)
- [August 2008](#)
- [July 2008](#)
- [June 2008](#)
- [May 2008](#)
- [April 2008](#)
- [March 2008](#)
- [February 2008](#)
- [January 2008](#)
- [December 2007](#)
- [November 2007](#)
- [October 2007](#)
- [September 2007](#)
- [August 2007](#)
- [July 2007](#)
- [June 2007](#)
- [May 2007](#)
- [April 2007](#)
- [March 2007](#)
- [February 2007](#)
- [January 2007](#)

### Categories

Select Category

Blog at WordPress.com. [The Chateau Theme](#).

[Follow](#)

### Follow "Kelly Tshibaka"

Get every new post delivered to your Inbox.

Join 907 other followers

Powered by [WordPress.com](#)

%d bloggers like this:

This XML file does not appear to have any style information associated with it. The document tree is shown below.

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8" ?>
<rss xmlns:content="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/content/" xmlns:dc="http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/" xmlns:atom="http://www.w3.org/2005/Atom"
xmlns:sy="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/syndication/" xmlns:georss="http://www.georss.org/georss" xmlns:geo="http://www.w3.org/2003/01/geo/wgs84_pos#"
xmlns:media="http://search.yahoo.com/mrss/" version="2.0">
  <channel>
    <title>Comments on: Jealousy is the Source of All Evil</title>
    <atom:link href="http://kellytshibaka.com/2013/10/28/jealousy-is-the-source-of-all-evil/feed/" rel="self" type="application/rss+xml"/>
    <link>
      http://kellytshibaka.com/2013/10/28/jealousy-is-the-source-of-all-evil/
    </link>
    <description>
      Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional
    </description>
    <lastBuildDate>Fri, 25 Oct 2013 05:12:18 +0000</lastBuildDate>
    <sy:updatePeriod>hourly</sy:updatePeriod>
    <sy:updateFrequency>1</sy:updateFrequency>
    <generator>http://wordpress.com/</generator>
  </channel>
</rss>
```





INTERNET ARCHIVE  
WayBackMachine

## Latest

[Show All](#)

Hrm.

The Wayback Machine has not archived that URL.

This page is available on the web!

Help make the Wayback Machine more complete!

Save this url in the Wayback Machine

Click here to search for all archived pages under <http://www.facebook.com/>.



Your use of the Wayback Machine is subject to the Internet Archive's Terms of Use

- [About](#)
- [Resources](#)
- [Speaking](#)

## Kelly Tshibaka

### ~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional



## Jealousy is the Source of All Evil

28 Monday Oct 2013

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [Uncategorized](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

"For where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there is disorder and every evil thing." James 3:16

<http://www.foxnews.com/us/2013/10/28/man-fatally-stabs-mother-t-children-in-brooklyn-home/>

#### Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

#### Like this:

Like Loading...

#### Post navigation

[← Previous post](#) [Next post →](#)

#### Leave a Reply

Email (Address never made public)

Name

Website

☐ Notify me of follow-up comments via email.

☐ Notify me of new posts via email.

Search:

#### Follow Blog

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 909 other followers

#### Recent Posts

- [Niki Made My Laugh Holy](#)
- [Ministry Is Like Landing on Mars](#)
- [I Love Family Day](#)
- [Seeing Jesus in the Autumn](#)
- [\\$120 Appetizer](#)

#### Archives

- [November 2013](#)
- [October 2013](#)
- [September 2013](#)
- [August 2013](#)
- [June 2013](#)
- [May 2013](#)
- [April 2013](#)
- [March 2013](#)
- [February 2013](#)
- [January 2013](#)
- [December 2012](#)
- [November 2012](#)
- [October 2012](#)
- [September 2012](#)
- [August 2012](#)
- [July 2012](#)
- [June 2012](#)
- [May 2012](#)
- [April 2012](#)
- [March 2012](#)
- [January 2012](#)
- [December 2011](#)
- [November 2011](#)
- [October 2011](#)
- [September 2011](#)
- [August 2011](#)
- [July 2011](#)
- [April 2011](#)
- [March 2011](#)
- [February 2011](#)
- [January 2011](#)
- [December 2010](#)
- [November 2010](#)
- [October 2010](#)
- [September 2010](#)
- [August 2010](#)
- [July 2010](#)
- [June 2010](#)
- [May 2010](#)
- [April 2010](#)
- [March 2010](#)
- [February 2010](#)
- [January 2010](#)
- [December 2009](#)
- [November 2009](#)
- [October 2009](#)
- [September 2009](#)
- [August 2009](#)
- [July 2009](#)
- [June 2009](#)
- [May 2009](#)
- [March 2009](#)
- [February 2009](#)
- [January 2009](#)
- [December 2008](#)
- [November 2008](#)
- [October 2008](#)
- [September 2008](#)
- [August 2008](#)
- [July 2008](#)
- [June 2008](#)
- [May 2008](#)
- [April 2008](#)
- [March 2008](#)
- [February 2008](#)
- [January 2008](#)
- [December 2007](#)
- [November 2007](#)
- [October 2007](#)
- [September 2007](#)
- [August 2007](#)
- [July 2007](#)
- [June 2007](#)
- [May 2007](#)
- [April 2007](#)
- [March 2007](#)
- [February 2007](#)
- [January 2007](#)

#### Categories

▼

[Blog at WordPress.com. The Chateau Theme.](#)

[Follow](#)

#### Follow “Kelly Tshibaka”

Get every new post delivered to your Inbox.

Join 909 other followers

Enter your email address

Powered by [WordPress.com](#)

%d bloggers like this:

DONATE

INTERNET ARCHIVE  
Wayback Machine

<http://www.linkedin.com/cws/share?token&isFramed=fa>

Latest

Show All

Hrm.

The Wayback Machine has not archived that URL.

This page is available on the web!

Help make the Wayback Machine more complete!

Save this url in the Wayback Machine

Click here to search for all archived pages under  
<http://www.linkedin.com/cws/>.



The Wayback Machine is an initiative of the Internet Archive, a 501(c)(3) non-profit building a digital library of Internet sites and other cultural artifacts in digital form. Other projects include Open Library & archive-it.org.

Your use of the Wayback Machine is subject to the Internet Archive's Terms of Use



DONATE



<http://www.pinterest.com/join/?next=/pin/create/button/>

Latest

Show All

Hrm.

The Wayback Machine has not archived that URL.

This page is available on the web!

Help make the Wayback Machine more complete!

Save this url in the Wayback Machine

Click here to search for all archived pages under  
<http://www.pinterest.com/join/>.



The Wayback Machine is an initiative of the Internet Archive, a 501(c)(3) non-profit building a digital library of Internet sites and other cultural artifacts in digital form. Other projects include Open Library & archive-it.org.

Your use of the Wayback Machine is subject to the Internet Archive's Terms of Use

## Share a link with your followers

Jealousy is the Source of All Evil <http://wp.me/p2FfKS-mk> via @wordpressdotcom

Username or email

Sign in and Tweet

Password

☐ Remember me · [Forgot password?](#)

## New to Twitter?

Sign up »



Don't miss any updates from **WordPress.com**. Get your account today to stay up-to-date with your interests!

[What is Twitter? Learn more.](#)

- ## Kelly Tshibaka

## ~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional

## Ministry Is Like Landing on Mars

09 Saturday Nov 2013

Posted by [kushibaka](#) in [discipling](#), [ministry](#), [my spiritual journey](#)

[↩ Leave a Comment](#)

## Tags

## Pastorings

I recently heard a NASA scientist explain what it was like to build the rover that landed on Mars. Before the successful landing that has made history, his team spent 8 years and a billion-plus dollars launching a rover that crashed on the surface of Mars.

An 8-year billion-dollar failure.

He vividly recalled the night his team learned they failed. Learned that a near decade of work had resulted in just another crater on Mars. He was so worried about their morale,

To his surprise, everyone on the team was fine with the failure—where else do you even get the *chance* to build Mars rovers? Of course there's a high risk of failure. Think of all the variables! But even knowing how it went, and how high the risks were, they would all do it again.

And they did.

That's how you have to think to do well in ministry. You have to be more curious and more excited about the opportunities ahead of you than the failures behind you. More excited about new people coming into your church than demoralized about those who left. More curious about new friends/partners than devastated by those who betrayed you.

And in so doing, you, too, can make history!

**Share this:**

- [More](#)

**Like this:**

Like Loading..

## Post navigation

[← Previous post](#)

### Leave a Reply

## Follow Blog

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 907 other followers

## Recent Posts

- [Ministry Is Like Landing on Mars](#)
- [I Love Family Day](#)
- [Seeing Jesus in the Autumn](#)
- [\\$120 Appetizer](#)
- [Pecking Order of Gentiles](#)

## Archives

- November 2013
- October 2013
- September 2013
- August 2013
- June 2013
- May 2013
- April 2013
- March 2013
- February 2013
- January 2013
- December 2012
- November 2012
- October 2012
- September 2012
- August 2012
- July 2012
- June 2012
- May 2012
- April 2012
- March 2012
- January 2012
- December 2011
- November 2011
- October 2011
- September 2011
- August 2011
- July 2011
- April 2011
- March 2011
- February 2011
- January 2011
- December 2010
- November 2010
- October 2010
- September 2010
- August 2010
- July 2010
- June 2010
- May 2010
- April 2010
- February 2010
- March 2010
- January 2010
- December 2009
- November 2009
- October 2009
- September 2009
- August 2009
- July 2009
- June 2009
- May 2009
- March 2009
- February 2009
- January 2009
- December 2008
- November 2008
- October 2008
- September 2008
- August 2008
- July 2008
- June 2008
- May 2008
- April 2008
- March 2008
- February 2008
- January 2008
- December 2007
- November 2007
- September 2007
- August 2007
- July 2007
- June 2007
- May 2007
- April 2007
- March 2007
- February 2007
- January 2007

## Categories

Select Category ▼

[Blog at WordPress.com.](#) [The Chateau Theme.](#)

Follow

### Follow "Kelly Tshibaka"

Get every new post delivered to your Inbox.

Join 907 other followers

Enter your email address

Powered by [WordPress.com](#)

%d bloggers like this:



This XML file does not appear to have any style information associated with it. The document tree is shown below.

```
▼<rss xmlns:content="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/content/" xmlns:dc="http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/" xmlns:atom="http://www.w3.org/2005/Atom"
xmlns:sy="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/syndication/" xmlns:georss="http://www.georss.org/georss" xmlns:geo="http://www.w3.org/2003/01/geo/wgs84_pos#"
xmlns:media="http://search.yahoo.com/mrss/" version="2.0">
▼<channel>
  <title>Comments on: Pecking Order of Geniuses</title>
  <atom:link href="http://kellytshibaka.com/2013/10/30/pecking-order-of-geniuses/feed/" rel="self" type="application/rss+xml"/>
▼<link>
  http://kellytshibaka.com/2013/10/30/pecking-order-of-geniuses/
</link>
▼<description>
  Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional
</description>
<lastBuildDate>Fri, 25 Oct 2013 05:12:18 +0000</lastBuildDate>
<sy:updatePeriod>hourly</sy:updatePeriod>
<sy:updateFrequency>1</sy:updateFrequency>
<generator>http://wordpress.com/</generator>
</channel>
</rss>
```

DONATE

INTERNET ARCHIVE  
**Wayback Machine**

<http://www.linkedin.com/cws/share?token&isFramed=fa>

Latest

Show All

Hrm.

The Wayback Machine has not archived that URL.

**This page is available on the web!**

Help make the Wayback Machine more complete!

Save this url in the Wayback Machine

Click here to search for all archived pages under  
<http://www.linkedin.com/cws/>.



The Wayback Machine is an initiative of the Internet Archive, a 501(c)(3) non-profit building a digital library of Internet sites and other cultural artifacts in digital form. Other projects include Open Library & archive-it.org.

Your use of the Wayback Machine is subject to the Internet Archive's Terms of Use



## Share a link with your followers

Pecking Order of Geniuses <http://wp.me/p2FfKS-mh> via @wordpressdotcom

Username or email

Sign in and Tweet

Password

☐ Remember me · [Forgot password?](#)

### New to Twitter?

[Sign up »](#)



Don't miss any updates from **WordPress.com**. Get your account today to stay up-to-date with your interests!

[What is Twitter? Learn more.](#)



DONATE



<http://www.facebook.com/sharer.php?u=http%3A%2F%>

Latest

Show All

Hrm.

The Wayback Machine has not archived that URL.

This page is available on the web!

Help make the Wayback Machine more complete!

Save this url in the Wayback Machine

Click here to search for all archived pages under  
<http://www.facebook.com/>.



The Wayback Machine is an initiative of the Internet Archive, a 501(c)(3) non-profit building a digital library of Internet sites and other cultural artifacts in digital form. Other projects include Open Library & archive-it.org.

Your use of the Wayback Machine is subject to the Internet Archive's Terms of Use

DONATE



<http://www.pinterest.com/join/?next=/pin/create/button/>

Latest

Show All

Hrm.

The Wayback Machine has not archived that URL.

This page is available on the web!

Help make the Wayback Machine more complete!

Save this url in the Wayback Machine

Click here to search for all archived pages under  
<http://www.pinterest.com/join/>.



The Wayback Machine is an initiative of the Internet Archive, a 501(c)(3) non-profit building a digital library of Internet sites and other cultural artifacts in digital form. Other projects include Open Library & archive-it.org.

Your use of the Wayback Machine is subject to the Internet Archive's Terms of Use

- ## Kelly Tshibaka

~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional

## Pecking Order of Geniuses

30 Wednesday Oct 2013

Posted by [kushibaka](#) in [kid stories](#), [raising kids](#)

[≈ Leave a Comment](#)

## Tags

## Parenting

Burton was sitting at the table doing some math homework. My parents were there, as was Nikki and Slah. She handed me her homework to correct. Now, in the immediate family, I'm the best at math. I tell the kids I'm a math whiz, so don't let math scare them — they've got math whiz brain in them, too. And my mom is even more of a math whiz than me — in fact, she built a career around it.

So I was surprised, and a bit indignant, when I told Button she got a problem wrong and she challenged me. I quickly retorted, "In the pecking order of geniuses in this family, where do you think you stand?!" I then proceeded to work through the problem step-by-step with her...only to catch my error and prove that SHE was right.

Button looked at me with THAT look, but didn't dare say what she was thinking. She didn't have to...my mom was there: "Ha! In the pecking order of geniuses, where do YOU stand, Kelly?!"

**Share this:**

- [More](#)

**Like this:**

Like Loading..

1999-2000-2001

Pseudo-post M

Search:

## Follow Blog

Enter your email address

Join 909 other followers

Follow

## Recent Posts

- [Niki Made My Laugh Holy](#)
- [Ministry Is Like Landing on Mars](#)
- [I Love Family Day](#)
- [Seeing Jesus in the Autumn](#)
- [\\$120 Appetizer](#)

## Archives

- November 2013
- October 2013
- September 2013
- August 2013
- June 2013
- May 2013
- April 2013
- March 2013
- February 2013
- January 2013
- December 2012
- November 2012
- October 2012
- September 2012
- August 2012
- July 2012
- June 2012
- May 2012
- April 2012
- March 2012
- January 2012
- December 2011
- November 2011
- October 2011
- September 2011
- August 2011
- July 2011
- April 2011
- March 2011
- February 2011
- January 2011
- December 2010
- November 2010
- October 2010
- September 2010
- August 2010
- July 2010
- June 2010
- May 2010
- April 2010
- March 2010
- February 2010
- January 2010
- December 2009
- November 2009
- October 2009
- September 2009
- August 2009
- July 2009
- June 2009
- May 2009
- March 2009
- February 2009
- January 2009
- December 2008
- November 2008
- October 2008
- September 2008
- August 2008
- July 2008
- June 2008
- May 2008
- April 2008
- March 2008
- February 2008
- January 2008
- December 2007
- November 2007
- October 2007
- September 2007
- August 2007
- July 2007
- June 2007
- May 2007
- April 2007
- March 2007
- February 2007
- January 2007

## Categories

Select Category

[Blog at WordPress.com.](#) The Chateau Theme.

[Follow](#)

Follow "Kelly Tshibaka"

Get every new post delivered to your Inbox.

Join 909 other followers

Enter your email address

[Sign me up](#)

Powered by [WordPress.com](#)

%d bloggers like this:

This XML file does not appear to have any style information associated with it. The document tree is shown below.

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8" ?>
<rss xmlns:content="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/content/" xmlns:dc="http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/" xmlns:atom="http://www.w3.org/2005/Atom"
xmlns:sy="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/syndication/" xmlns:georss="http://www.georss.org/georss" xmlns:geo="http://www.w3.org/2003/01/geo/wgs84_pos#"
xmlns:media="http://search.yahoo.com/mrss/" version="2.0">
  <channel>
    <title>Comments on: Racism and Kids</title>
    <atom:link href="http://kellytshibaka.com/2013/10/19/racism-and-kids/feed/" rel="self" type="application/rss+xml"/>
    <link>http://kellytshibaka.com/2013/10/19/racism-and-kids/</link>
    <description>Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional</description>
    <lastBuildDate>Fri, 25 Oct 2013 05:12:18 +0000</lastBuildDate>
    <sy:updatePeriod>hourly</sy:updatePeriod>
    <sy:updateFrequency>1</sy:updateFrequency>
    <generator>http://wordpress.com/</generator>
  </channel>
</rss>
```



DONATE



<http://kellytshibaka.com/2013/10/24/the-local-church/?sh>

Latest

Show All

Hrm.

The Wayback Machine has not archived that URL.

This page is available on the web!

Help make the Wayback Machine more complete!

Save this url in the Wayback Machine

Click here to search for all archived pages under  
<http://kellytshibaka.com/2013/10/24/the-local-church/>.



The Wayback Machine is an initiative of the Internet Archive, a 501(c)(3) non-profit building a digital library of Internet sites and other cultural artifacts in digital form. Other projects include Open Library & archive-it.org.

Your use of the Wayback Machine is subject to the Internet Archive's Terms of Use

```
▼<rss xmlns:content="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/content/" xmlns:wfw="http://wellformedweb.org/CommentAPI/" xmlns:dc="http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/"
xmlns:atom="http://www.w3.org/2005/Atom" xmlns:sy="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/syndication/" xmlns:slash="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/slash/"
xmlns:georss="http://www.georss.org/georss" xmlns:geo="http://www.w3.org/2003/01/geo/wgs84_pos#" xmlns:media="http://search.yahoo.com/mrss/" version="2.0">
  ▼<channel>
    <title>Kelly Tshibaka » kid stories</title>
    <atom:link href="http://kellytshibaka.com/tag/kid-stories/feed/" rel="self" type="application/rss+xml"/>
    <link>http://kellytshibaka.com</link>
    ▼<description>
      Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional
    </description>
    <lastBuildDate>Tue, 12 Nov 2013 23:35:53 +0000</lastBuildDate>
    <language>en</language>
    <sy:updatePeriod>hourly</sy:updatePeriod>
    <sy:updateFrequency>1</sy:updateFrequency>
    <generator>http://wordpress.com/</generator>
    <cloud domain="kellytshibaka.com" port="80" path="/?rsscloud=notify" registerProcedure="" protocol="http-post"/>
    ▼<image>
      <url>http://s2.wp.com/i/buttonw-com.png</url>
      <title>» kid stories</title>
      <link>http://kellytshibaka.com</link>
    </image>
    <atom:link rel="search" type="application/opensearchdescription+xml" href="http://kellytshibaka.com/osd.xml" title="Kelly Tshibaka"/>
    <atom:link rel="hub" href="http://kellytshibaka.com/?pushpress=hub"/>
    ▼<item>
      <title>Bad Mexican</title>
      <link>http://kellytshibaka.com/2013/10/26/bad-mexican/</link>
      ▼<comments>
        http://kellytshibaka.com/2013/10/26/bad-mexican/#comments
      </comments>
      <pubDate>Sat, 26 Oct 2013 12:36:01 +0000</pubDate>
      ▼<dc:creator>
        <![CDATA[ ktshibaka ]]>
      </dc:creator>
      ▼<category>
        <![CDATA[ kid stories ]]>
      </category>
      ▼<category>
        <![CDATA[ Parenting ]]>
      </category>
      <guid isPermaLink="false">http://kellytshibaka.com/?p=1377</guid>
      ▼<description>
        ▼<![CDATA[
          Button used magnetic shapes to build a fort. &#8220;It&#8217;s the Alamo!&#8221; she proudly declared. In true brother fashion, Siah promptly &#8230;<p>
          <a href="http://kellytshibaka.com/2013/10/26/bad-mexican/">Continue reading &#187;</a></p>
        ]]>
      </description>
      ▼<content:encoded>
        ▼<![CDATA[
          <p>Button used magnetic shapes to build a fort. &#8220;It&#8217;s the Alamo!&#8221; she proudly declared.</p> <p>In true brother fashion, Siah promptly
          goes over and knocks it down.</p> <p>She stares at him matter-of-factly and issues her indictment: &#8220;You&#8217;re just a bad Mexican.&#8221;</p><br
          />Filed under: <a href='http://kellytshibaka.com/category/kid-stories/'>kid stories</a> Tagged: <a href='http://kellytshibaka.com/tag/kid-stories/'>kid
          stories</a>, <a href='http://kellytshibaka.com/tag/parenting/'>Parenting</a> <a rel="nofollow"
          href="http://feeds.wordpress.com/1.0/gocomments/kellytshibaka.wordpress.com/1377/"></a> <a rel="nofollow"
          href="http://feeds.wordpress.com/1.0/godelicious/kellytshibaka.wordpress.com/1377/"></a> <a rel="nofollow"
          href="http://feeds.wordpress.com/1.0/gofacebook/kellytshibaka.wordpress.com/1377/"></a> <a rel="nofollow"
          href="http://feeds.wordpress.com/1.0/gotwitter/kellytshibaka.wordpress.com/1377/"></a> <a rel="nofollow"
          href="http://feeds.wordpress.com/1.0/gostumble/kellytshibaka.wordpress.com/1377/"></a> <a rel="nofollow"
          href="http://feeds.wordpress.com/1.0/godigg/kellytshibaka.wordpress.com/1377/"></a> <a rel="nofollow"
          href="http://feeds.wordpress.com/1.0/goreddit/kellytshibaka.wordpress.com/1377/"></a> 
        ]]>
      </content:encoded>
      ▼<wfw:commentRss>
        http://kellytshibaka.com/2013/10/26/bad-mexican/feed/
      </wfw:commentRss>
      <slash:comments>0</slash:comments>
      ▼<media:content uri="http://0.gravtar.com/avatar/f8608910456fe7c22848ca34fcd80c0?
        s=96&d=http%3A%2F%2F0.gravtar.com%2Favatar%2Fad516503a11cd5ca435acc9bb6523536%3Fs%3D96&r=PG" medium="image">
        <media:title type="html">ktshibaka</media:title>
      </media:content>
    </item>
  </channel>
</rss>
```

DONATE



<http://kellytshibaka.com/2013/10/26/bad-mexican/?share>

Latest

Show All

Hrm.

The Wayback Machine has not archived that URL.

This page is available on the web!

Help make the Wayback Machine more complete!

Save this url in the Wayback Machine

Click here to search for all archived pages under  
<http://kellytshibaka.com/2013/10/26/bad-mexican/>.



The Wayback Machine is an initiative of the Internet Archive, a 501(c)(3) non-profit building a digital library of Internet sites and other cultural artifacts in digital form. Other projects include Open Library & archive-it.org.

Your use of the Wayback Machine is subject to the Internet Archive's Terms of Use









This XML file does not appear to have any style information associated with it. The document tree is shown below.

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8" ?>
<rss xmlns:content="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/content/" xmlns:dc="http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/" xmlns:atom="http://www.w3.org/2005/Atom"
xmlns:sy="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/syndication/" xmlns:georss="http://www.georss.org/georss" xmlns:geo="http://www.w3.org/2003/01/geo/wgs84_pos#"
xmlns:media="http://search.yahoo.com/mrss/" version="2.0">
  <channel>
    <title>Comments on: I Love Family Day</title>
    <atom:link href="http://kellytshibaka.com/2013/11/07/i-love-family-day/feed/" rel="self" type="application/rss+xml"/>
    <link>
      http://kellytshibaka.com/2013/11/07/i-love-family-day/
    </link>
    <description>
      Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional
    </description>
    <lastBuildDate>Fri, 25 Oct 2013 05:12:18 +0000</lastBuildDate>
    <sy:updatePeriod>hourly</sy:updatePeriod>
    <sy:updateFrequency>1</sy:updateFrequency>
    <generator>http://wordpress.com/</generator>
    <item>
      <title>By: Isaac Hovet</title>
      <link>
        http://kellytshibaka.com/2013/11/07/i-love-family-day/comment-page-1/#comment-270
      </link>
      <dc:creator>
        <![CDATA[ Isaac Hovet ]]>
      </dc:creator>
      <pubDate>Sat, 13 Apr 2013 21:12:07 +0000</pubDate>
      <guid isPermaLink="false">
        https://kellytshibaka.wordpress.com/?p=1213#comment-270
      </guid>
      <description>
        <![CDATA[ May we all follow your example. ]]>
      </description>
      <content:encoded>
        <![CDATA[ <p>May we all follow your example.</p> ]]>
      </content:encoded>
    </item>
  </channel>
</rss>
```

DONATE



<http://kellytshibaka.com/2013/10/28/jealousy-is-the-sou>

Latest

Show All

Hrm.

The Wayback Machine has not archived that URL.

This page is available on the web!

Help make the Wayback Machine more complete!

Save this url in the Wayback Machine

Click here to search for all archived pages under  
<http://kellytshibaka.com/2013/10/28/jealousy-is-the-source-of-all-evil/>.



The Wayback Machine is an initiative of the Internet Archive, a 501(c)(3) non-profit building a digital library of Internet sites and other cultural artifacts in digital form. Other projects include Open Library & archive-it.org.

Your use of the Wayback Machine is subject to the Internet Archive's Terms of Use



This XML file does not appear to have any style information associated with it. The document tree is shown below.

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8" ?>
<rss xmlns:content="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/content/" xmlns:dc="http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/" xmlns:atom="http://www.w3.org/2005/Atom"
xmlns:sy="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/syndication/" xmlns:georss="http://www.georss.org/georss" xmlns:geo="http://www.w3.org/2003/01/geo/wgs84_pos#"
xmlns:media="http://search.yahoo.com/mrss/" version="2.0">
  <channel>
    <title>Comments on: Ministry Is Like Landing on Mars</title>
    <atom:link href="http://kellytshibaka.com/2013/11/09/ministry-is-like-landing-on-mara/feed/" rel="self" type="application/rss+xml"/>
    <link>
      http://kellytshibaka.com/2013/11/09/ministry-is-like-landing-on-mara/
    </link>
    <description>
      Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional
    </description>
    <lastBuildDate>Fri, 25 Oct 2013 05:12:18 +0000</lastBuildDate>
    <sy:updatePeriod>hourly</sy:updatePeriod>
    <sy:updateFrequency>1</sy:updateFrequency>
    <generator>http://wordpress.com/</generator>
  </channel>
</rss>
```



DONATE



<http://www.pinterest.com/join/?next=/pin/create/button/>

Latest

Show All

Hrm.

The Wayback Machine has not archived that URL.

This page is available on the web!

Help make the Wayback Machine more complete!

Save this url in the Wayback Machine

Click here to search for all archived pages under  
<http://www.pinterest.com/join/>.



The Wayback Machine is an initiative of the Internet Archive, a 501(c)(3) non-profit building a digital library of Internet sites and other cultural artifacts in digital form. Other projects include Open Library & archive-it.org.

Your use of the Wayback Machine is subject to the Internet Archive's Terms of Use

DONATE



<http://www.linkedin.com/cws/share?token&isFramed=fz>

Latest

Show All

Hrm.

The Wayback Machine has not archived that URL.

This page is available on the web!

Help make the Wayback Machine more complete!

Save this url in the Wayback Machine

Click here to search for all archived pages under  
<http://www.linkedin.com/cws/>.



The Wayback Machine is an initiative of the Internet Archive, a 501(c)(3) non-profit building a digital library of Internet sites and other cultural artifacts in digital form. Other projects include Open Library & archive-it.org.

Your use of the Wayback Machine is subject to the Internet Archive's Terms of Use

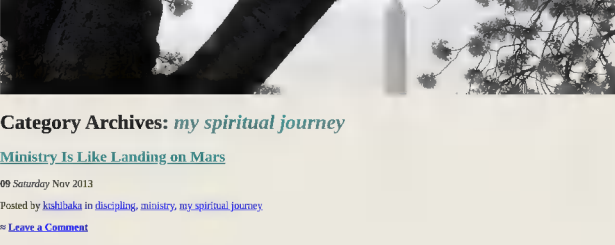
- [About](#)
- [Resources](#)
- [Speaking](#)

## Kelly Tshibaka

### ~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional

Search:

Go



## Category Archives: *my spiritual journey*

### Ministry Is Like Landing on Mars

09 Saturday Nov 2013

Posted by [kushibaka](#) in [discipling](#), [ministry](#), [my spiritual journey](#)

~ [Leave a Comment](#)

Tags

[Pastoring](#)

I recently heard a NASA scientist explain what it was like to build the rover that landed on Mars. Before the successful landing that has made history, his team spent 8 years and a billion-plus dollars launching a rover that crashed on the surface of Mars.

An 8-year billion-dollar failure.

He vividly recalled the night his team learned they failed. Learned that a near decade of work had resulted in just another crater on Mars. He was so worried about their morale.

To his surprise, everyone on the team was fine with the failure—where else do you even get the chance to build Mars rovers? Of course there's a high risk of failure. Think of all the variables! But even knowing how it went, and how high the risks were, they would all do it again.

And they did.

That's how you have to think to do well in ministry. You have to be more curious and more excited about the opportunities ahead of you than the failures behind you. More excited about new people coming into your church than demoralized about those who left. More curious about new friends/partners than devastated by those who betrayed you.

And in so doing, you, too, can make history!

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### I Love Family Day

07 Thursday Nov 2013

Posted by [kushibaka](#) in [balancing it all](#), [ministry](#), [my other day job](#), [my spiritual journey](#), [raising kids](#), [recommendations](#), [spiritual truths](#)

~ [1 Comment](#)

Tags

[Family Day](#), [Pastoring](#), [Pastorizing](#)

Family Day is our weekly sabbath. It's the day we do nothing. Well, nothing we don't want to do anyway. Anything that would complete the sentence, "Mama can't play with you, sweetie, because I have to..." doesn't get done. There are six other days to do that. (Well most of the time—one time they forecasted the first freeze of the year that night and I decided not to drain the pipes because it was Family Day and...well... It turns out I DID need to drain the pipes that day...)

ANY case—this is my retirement, lived one day a week, spread out over my lifetime. And I love it!

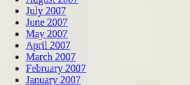
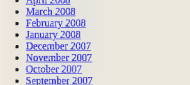
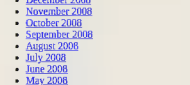
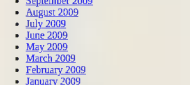
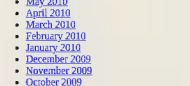
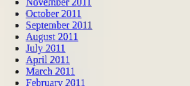
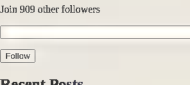
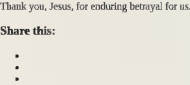
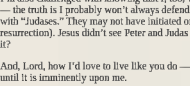
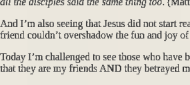
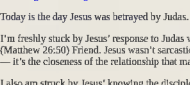
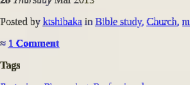
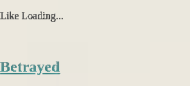
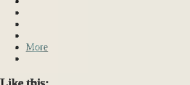
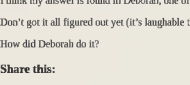
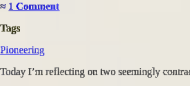
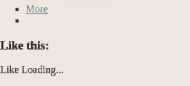
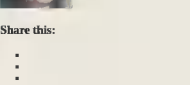
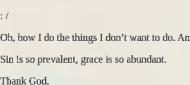
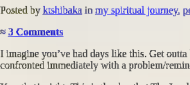
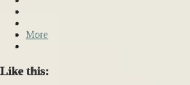
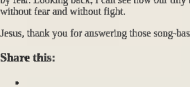
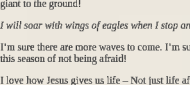
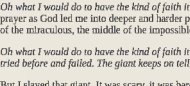
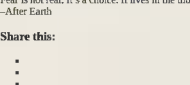
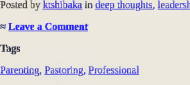
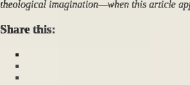
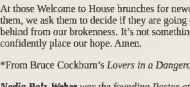
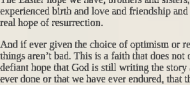
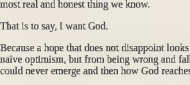
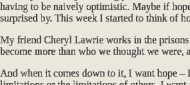
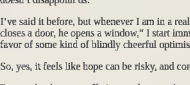
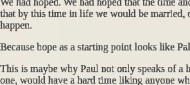
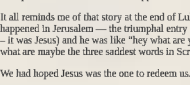
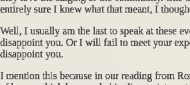
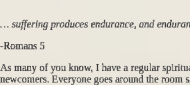
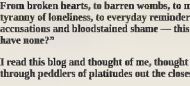
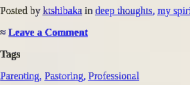
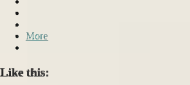
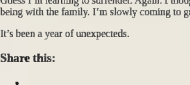
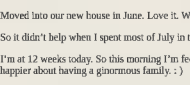
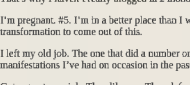
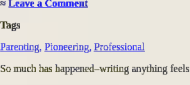
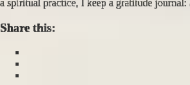
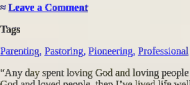
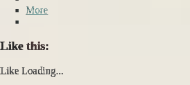
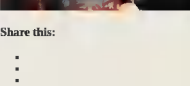
Some Family Day/Sabbath guidelines for me:

- a. No email or news programs—they stress me out
- b. No "have to get" shopping, but totally go for fun shopping
- c. Eat good food. Period. No diets and no fasting!
- d. Do no dishes

One Family Day, we slept in 2 hours later than normal, made a yummy breakfast, watched cartoons, played outside, picked up subs and went to the Old Town pier for a picnic lunch, got ice cream at Ben and Jerry's, bought me some fantastically beautiful and comfortable new sandals, played tag with the kids in the park, had nap/video game/quiet time, made iced tea (thank you Kim), played peekaboo with Baby, took photos, prayed, found white stones, watched a movie as a family, and had Lorei come spend the night with us.

Best day ever.

Until next week... : D



## Share a link with your followers

Ministry Is Like Landing on Mars <http://wp.me/p2FfKS-mv> via @wordpressdotcom

Username or email

Sign in and Tweet

Password

☐ Remember me · [Forgot password?](#)

### New to Twitter?

Sign up »



Don't miss any updates from **WordPress.com**. Get your account today to stay up-to-date with your interests!

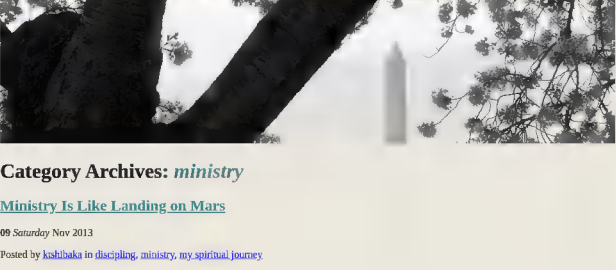
[What is Twitter? Learn more.](#)



- [About](#)
- [Resources](#)
- [Speaking](#)

## Kelly Tshibaka

### ~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional



## Category Archives: *ministry*

### [Ministry Is Like Landing on Mars](#)

09 Saturday Nov 2013

Posted by [kashibaka](#) in [discipling](#), [ministry](#), [my spiritual journey](#)

» [Leave a Comment](#)

#### Tags

[Pastoring](#)

I recently heard a NASA scientist explain what it was like to build the rover that landed on Mars. Before the successful landing that has made history, his team spent 8 years and a billion-plus dollars launching a rover that crashed on the surface of Mars.

An 8-year billion-dollar failure.

He vividly recalled the night his team learned they failed. Learned that a near decade of work had resulted in just another crater on Mars. He was so worried about their morale.

To his surprise, everyone on the team was fine with the failure—where else do you even get the chance to build Mars rovers? Of course there's a high risk of failure. Think of all the variables! But even knowing how it went, and how high the risks were, they would all do it again.

And they did.

That's how you have to think to do well in ministry. You have to be more curious and more excited about the opportunities ahead of you than the failures behind you. More excited about new people coming into your church than demoralized about those who left. More curious about new friends/partners than devastated by those who betrayed you.

And in so doing, you, too, can make history!

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### [I Love Family Day](#)

07 Thursday Nov 2013

Posted by [kashibaka](#) in [balancing it all](#), [ministry](#), [my other day job](#), [my spiritual journey](#), [raising kids](#), [recommendations](#), [spiritual truths](#)

» [1 Comment](#)

#### Tags

[Pastoring Professional Pastoring](#)

Family Day is our weekly sabbath. It's the day we do nothing. Well, nothing we don't want to do anyway. Anything that would complete the sentence, "Mama can't play with you, sweetie, because I have to..." doesn't get done. There are six other days to do that. (Well most of the time—one time they forecasted the first freeze of the year that night and I decided not to drain the pipes because it was Family Day and...well...I turn out I DID need to drain the pipes that day...)

ANY case—this is my retirement, lived one day a week, spread out over my lifetime. And I love it!

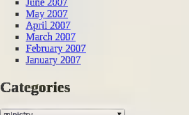
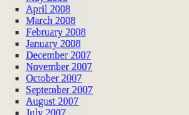
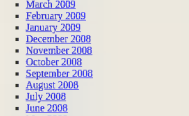
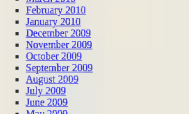
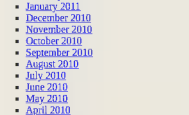
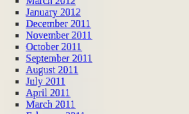
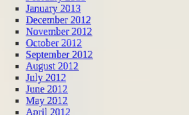
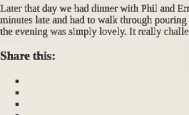
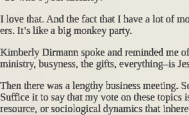
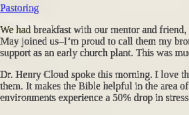
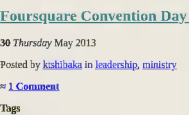
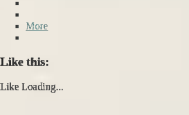
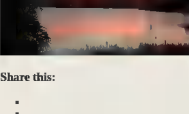
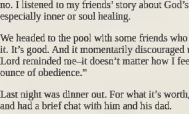
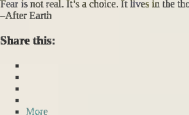
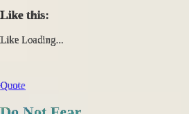
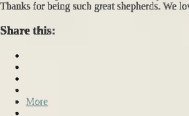
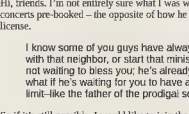
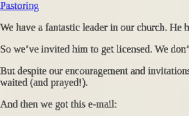
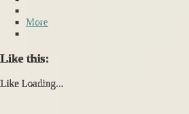
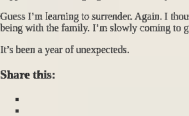
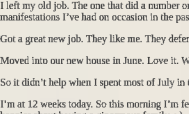
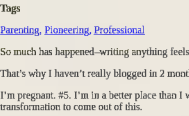
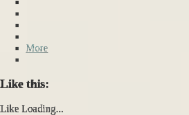
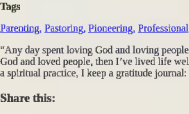
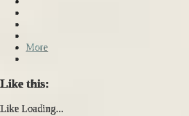
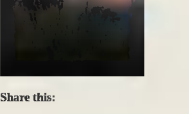
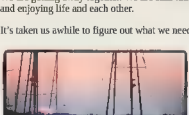
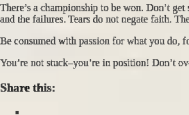
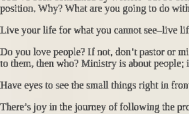
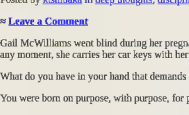
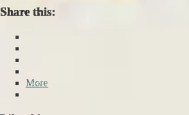
Some Family Day/Sabbath guidelines for me:

- a. No email or news programs—they stress me out
- b. No "have to get" shopping, but totally go for fun shopping
- c. Eat good food. Period. No diets and no fasting!
- d. No dishes

One Family Day, we slept in 2 hours later than normal, made a yummy breakfast, watched cartoons, played outside, picked up subs and went to the Old Town pier for a picnic lunch, got ice cream at Ben and Jerry's, bought me some fantastically beautiful and comfortable new sandals, played tag with the kids in the park, had nap/video game/quiet time, made ice/tea (thank you Kim), played peekaboo with baby, took photos, prayed, found white stones, watched a movie as a family, and had Laurel come spend the night with us.

Best day ever.

Until next week...:D

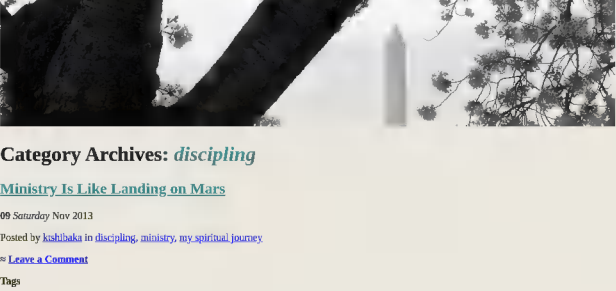


%d bloggers like this:

- [About](#)
- [Resources](#)
- [Speaking](#)

## Kelly Tshibaka

### ~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional



## Category Archives: [discipling](#)

### [Ministry Is Like Landing on Mars](#)

09 Sunday Nov 2013

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [discipling](#), [ministry](#), [my spiritual journey](#)

» [Leave a Comment](#)

**Tags**

[Pastoring](#)

I recently heard a NASA scientist explain what it was like to build the rover that landed on Mars. Before the successful landing that has made history, his team spent 8 years and a billion-plus dollars launching a rover that crashed on the surface of Mars.

An 8-year billion-dollar failure.

He vividly recalled the night his team learned they failed. Learned that a clear decade of work had resulted in just another crater on Mars. He was so worried about their morale.

To his surprise, everyone on the team was fine with the failure—where else do you even get the chance to build Mars rovers? Of course there's a high risk of failure. Think of all the variables! But even knowing how it went, and how high the risks were, they would all do it again.

And they did.

That's how you have to think to do well in ministry. You have to be more curious and more excited about the opportunities ahead of you than the failures behind you. More excited about new people coming into your church than demoralized about those who left. More curious about new friends/partners than devastated by those who betrayed you.

And in so doing, you, too, can make history!

**Share this:**

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

**Like this:**

Like Loading...

### [Encouraging Words from a Church Leader](#)

09 Wednesday Oct 2013

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [discipling](#), [Notes for Pastor's Wife](#)

» [Leave a Comment](#)

I pray this morning that as you look upon our church and your children that you will see the harvest of righteousness that you have given yourself as a worker for. And that you will see how you have raised up more workers for the harvest. May you see the fruit this morning and may it be pleasing and fruitful!

**Share this:**

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

**Like this:**

Like Loading...

### [Being Blind and Carrying Car Keys](#)

07 Monday Oct 2013

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [deep thoughts](#), [discipling](#), [healing](#), [His mysterious ways](#), [leadership](#), [ministry](#), [spiritual truths](#), [women's topics](#)

» [Leave a Comment](#)

Gail McWilliams went blind during her pregnancies. She chose her children over her eyesight. And she believes in Jesus—the God who heals at any moment. *Knowing* her blindness could change any moment, she carries her car keys with her everywhere she goes.

What do you have in your hand that demands hope?

You were born on purpose, with purpose, for purpose. Our God is a drama king—He sets us up for the impossible so He can be glorified and we can grow.

You've been consumed by worries—but be consumed by this: God has placed you where you are for a purpose that only you can accomplish. Anyone can have your position, but *you* have your position. Why? What are you going to do with the influence He has given you?

Live your life for what you cannot see—live life for a vision that's ahead of you, one that you can't yet see, that's impossible *but* for God.

Do you love people? If not, don't pastor or minister to them. Develop your love and patience. *An* develop true grit—speak truth in love. They need truth, counsel, help—if you're not going to give it to them, *aren't you?* Ministry is about people; it's our pleasure to serve them! Please God and serve people—that's where greatness is found.

Have eyes to see the small things right in front of you that demand hope, compel vision, and require faith for the impossible. Have eyes to see what God is doing.

There's joy in the journey of following the promptings of God. Having joy is a choice.

There's a championship to be won. Don't get stuck on the 50 yard line in indecision, fear, or disbelief. Believe that He will use you right where you are, in the midst of the awkward and the flub ups and the failures. Tears do not negate faith. They do not negate purpose. Run the race.

Be consumed with passion for what you do, for people and loving them.

You're not stuck—you're in position! Don't overlook the opportunities right in front of you! Quit surviving and try living!

**Share this:**

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

**Like this:**

Like Loading...

### [Inspired a Young Man to Go For It in Ministry](#)

10 Wednesday Jan 2013

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [discipling](#), [leadership](#), [ministry](#)

» [Leave a Comment](#)

**Tags**

[Pastoring](#)

We have a fantastic leader in our church. He has the right heart. He's full of humility. He serves when no one is looking. He takes care of people.

So we've invited him to get licensed. We don't license people to make them pastors; we license people who are already pastoring. And he fits the bill.

But despite our encouragement and invitations to get licensed, we hadn't heard anything from him. We decided not to pressure — we saw him as a pastor, but he needed to hear it from God. So we waited (and prayed).

And then we got this e-mail:

Hi, friends, I'm not entirely sure what I was waiting for, but I was waiting. Then I read a [good post from Andrew Peterson](#) this morning in which he talks about traveling to Europe even without concerns pre-booked — the opposite of how he usually does tours. The below section socked me in the gut, and I realized that if I waited for the perfect conditions to emerge, I won't ever pursue a license.

I know some of you guys have always wanted to write a book. You've always wanted to ask that girl to marry you. You've always wanted to actually build a friendship with that neighbor, or start that ministry, or right that wrong, but things just never worked out. You're waiting on the Lord, when maybe the Lord is waiting on you—he's not waiting to stress you; he's already done that and will continue to, regardless of your zeal. And he's not waiting to "show up," because he's already there. I mean, what if he's waiting for you to have a seismic shift in your understanding of what it means to be his child, what it means to trust him, to finally realize that the sky's the limit—like the father of the prodigal son saying to the self-righteous one: "All that I have is already yours."

So if it's still possible, I would like to join the merry band of potential licensees this summer. Sorry for the delays.

Thanks for being such great shepherds. We love you guys!

**Share this:**

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

**Like this:**

Like Loading...

### [What's It Like to Be a Grown Up?](#)

03 Monday Jan 2013

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [discipling](#), [raising kids](#)

» [Leave a Comment](#)

**Tags**

[Parenting](#), [Pastoring](#)

"Mama, What's it like to be a grown-up?" Burton and Siyah asked.

A bunch of thoughts came to mind quickly, but I realized that the actual question was, "what is the difference between a child and a grown-up?" I saw that in their perception, grown-ups get to do whatever they want. Being a grown-up is so much better than being a kid. Because they didn't understand what it really entails.

So I started with the positives — "when you're a grown-up you get to make the rules, when you're a grown-up you get to watch tv late, and when you are a grown-up you get to make money and spend it on whatever you want!"

"But what really makes you a grown-up is the amount of responsibility you take for others. You see, as you go through childhood, you will increasingly become responsible for yourself. By the time you leave this house, you will be responsible for paying your own bills, doing your own laundry, figuring out what you're going to eat, and staying healthy.

"As you get older, you will begin to be responsible for other people. You will get married, you will have kids. You'll have to help pay their bills, do their laundry, figure out what they are going to eat, and keep them healthy.

"And then, if you really want to serve Jesus by loving people, you start taking responsibility for them, too. Like what we do for the people in church. We serve them, help them, counsel them through life situations, and give them spiritual truths every Sunday. We realized someone needs to help these people, and daddy and I decided to take responsibility for that.

"So you see, it looks like grown-ups can do whatever they want. But their freedom is limited by their responsibility for others.

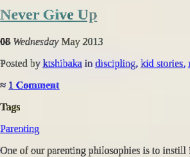
"For example, I make a lot of money at work, right? So I can spend that money on whatever I want, right? But when I'm responsible for you guys, what do I spend my money on? Most of the money goes towards paying for a place to live and paying our bills.

"Or it might look like I can do whatever I want with my time. But I spend most of my time with daddy, you guys, and taking care of the people in church.

"Being a grown-up is truly fantastic, but not for the reasons you think. It's not because I get to do whatever I want and have complete freedom with no rules. It's because I get the privilege and honor of getting to take care of other people."

The kids understood it, but I think they were a little bit surprised to learn that being a grown-up wasn't what they thought it was.

As I reflected on our conversation, it occurred to me that what is true about grown-ups is true about discipling. Grown-up Christians take responsibility for others. That's the main thing that sets them apart from non-grown-up Christians. Put another way, grown-up Christians are in the business of making disciples.



**Share this:**

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

**Like this:**

Like Loading...

### [How Do You Become a Pastor?](#)

15 Wednesday May 2013

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [Church](#), [discipling](#), [leadership](#), [ministry](#), [stories from a pioneer church](#)

» [1 Comment](#)

**Tags**

[Pastoring](#)

We look for people who are faithful, accountable, teachable and actively & consistently serving others. Our philosophy is that licensing simply recognizes the pastoring that someone already is doing.

So we don't use licensing to make pastors, we license people who are already pastoring.

**Share this:**

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

**Like this:**

Like Loading...

### [Then There Were Two](#)

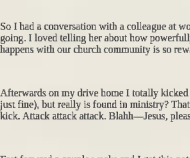
13 Monday May 2013

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [discipling](#), [kid stories](#), [raising kids](#)

» [1 Comment](#)

**Tags**

[Parenting](#), [Pastoring](#)



Niki told me that on the drive to school, Burton asked him, "Daddy, when we are in the car with you, can you please not listen to the news? We would like to spend this time talking with you instead."

Niki said he was so impressed with how maturely she handled herself. "She sounded just like you," he said. Then he smiled and rolled his eyes. "Then there were two!"

**Share this:**

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

**Like this:**

Like Loading...

### [Never Give Up](#)

08 Wednesday May 2013

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [discipling](#), [kid stories](#), [raising kids](#)

» [1 Comment](#)

**Tags**

[Parenting](#)

One of our parenting philosophies is to instill in our children a set of core values rather than a set of rules to follow. The rules will expire once they move out of the house. But the core values will continue to guide their decision-making and choices for the rest of their life.

This past weekend we had the opportunity to see that one of our core values has taken root in Siyah. (Which is such an encouragement, because in parenting—like discipling—you often have no idea if what you're doing is making a difference...)

So Siyah was at a friend's party, which had a particularly challenging game. He was patient and persistent in trying to win the game. He just kept working hard at it even though he wasn't getting very far.

This caught the attention of one of the adults at the party who did not know us. She was really impressed with his tenacity!

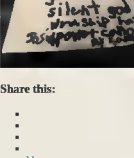
"You are really trying hard at this!" She said. "You're such a hard worker!"

Siyah kept playing the game. "That's because Tshibakas never give up."

She was a little confused. "I've never heard the Star Wars character described that way... How does he inspire you to not give up?"

Siyah grinned. "No, not the Star Wars character. Our last name is Tshibaka. It sounds like the Star Wars character Chewbacca, but it's different. I am a Tshibaka, And Tshibakas never give up!"

Love that kid!



**Share this:**

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

**Like this:**

Like Loading...

### [I Helped Sink a Boat](#)

03 Friday May 2013

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [discipling](#), [His mysterious ways](#), [ministry](#), [workplace ministry](#)

» [1 Comment](#)

**Tags**

[Pastoring](#), [Professional](#)

One of the stories I love the most in scripture is when Jesus got into Peter's boat to preach, told the fishermen to lower their nets for a catch, and the catch was so big that it sank the boat. And then, with the boat in ruins, they left everything and followed Him to become fishers of men.

Love it. Jesus meets people in the midst of their careers, normal life, just another day, and then so amazes them with the power of God that they leave everything for the purpose of making disciples of Him. He sinks their boat!

That's one of the things I love doing, too — sinking people's boats. Passing on amazing things of God that get their attention, get them to see that life in Him, with Him, for Him offers so much more than the world could ever offer. Then they stop pursuing the things of this world (like material items, position on the career ladder, etc.) and instead they seek first the kingdom of God. In fact, I often see one of my callings, one of my purposes in the Kingdom to help sink people's boats. That's right. I'm a boat sinker!

So I had a conversation with a colleague at work. I hadn't seen her in awhile, but I know she loves Jesus and does what she can in her free time to serve Him. She asked me about how our church is going. I loved telling her about how powerfully the Spirit is moving, how people's lives are changing, how amazing our people are, and on and on. Then I got real with her — truth is that what happens with our church community is so rewarding, so fulfilling, so amazing that it makes all this (work) worth it. It puts the life back in life, you know?

Afterwards on my drive home I totally kicked myself. Why did I tell her that? Why did I share with her that my real passion, desire, and fulfillment is not found in my cubicle (though I like my job just fine), but really is found in ministry? That's awfully personal...not the corporate-friendly message people want to hear. Set me up for more scrutiny, attacks, and persecution. Bleck! Kick kick kick. Attack attack attack. Blahh—Jesus, please forgive me for anything I said wrong and please protect me.

Fast forward a couple weeks and I get this note from her:

*Hey, Kelly — I couldn't share this with you when you were here, but you ministered to me in our time together. Without intending to, you helped confirm a decision I was teetering on to leave my job and pursue ministry and mommyhood full-time. Thank you so much for being candid.*

(Great elation!) I HELPED SINK HER BOAT!! Here I was thinking that I was being unwise, foolish, maybe even sinful, beating myself up about it all (or letting the enemy beat me up, now that I think of it). And all the while, God put me in the right place at the right time to fulfill one of my fundamental purposes in life. HOW AMAZING IS THAT?! I helped sink her boat without even trying!!! And I now have such renewed hope for God's plans and purposes for me at work. Jesus, You are amazing. Simply amazing!

**Share this:**

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

**Like this:**

Like Loading...

### [Siah Interprets Tongues](#)

22 Monday Apr 2013

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [discipling](#), [His mysterious ways](#), [kid stories](#), [ministry](#), [spiritual truths](#), [stories from a pioneer church](#)

» [1 Comment](#)

**Tags**

[Pioneering](#), [Pastoring](#)

Our church just went through a sermon series on the spiritual gifts listed in 1 Corinthians 12. These gifts include tongues and the interpretation of tongues.

Just two weeks after the teaching on tongues, one of the leaders in our congregation believed he had a word in tongues for us. This was a big deal because we've never had a corporate word in tongues before, let alone from one of our more reserved members. God was clearly leading him—this was not something he'd think up on his own!

So with great courage he stood at the front and spoke in tongues over us. And then we instructed people to listen—as they heard the word, what thoughts that sound like God say in their head that weren't there before? Be bold enough to offer them for everyone to hear. This process of interpretation is how tongues becomes like prophecy and builds the whole church rather than just the person speaking in tongues.

It was all very orderly and normal feeling. A couple different people understood/heard/interpreted different parts of the message in tongues, and they worked together. It was pretty cool to experience us stripping out like this for the first time.

And then Siah, little Siah, came up with a piece of paper on which he scrawled to mark the complete interpretation of the tongue. It includes everything everyone had said and then some. He read it aloud into the mic. There was no doubt it was God. Some wept, others were amazed, all were moved.

Here's a picture of it. It reads:

Righteousness comes from our faith  
Our prayers are power //  
Call to The Lord  
My strength is divided in you  
Our God is not a silent God  
Working has power  
Call on My Name  
(Josiah)



**Share this:**

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

**Like this:**

Like Loading...

← [Older posts](#)

Search:

## Follow Blog

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 909 other followers

## Recent Posts

- [Niki Made My Laugh Holy](#)
- [Ministry Is Like Landing on Mars](#)
- [Love Family Day](#)
- [Seeing Jesus in the Autumn](#)
- [8120 Appetizer](#)

## Archives

- [November 2013](#)
- [October 2013](#)
- [September 2013](#)
- [August 2013](#)
- [June 2013](#)
- [May 2013](#)
- [April 2013](#)
- [March 2013](#)
- [February 2013](#)
- [January 2013](#)
- [December 2012](#)
- [November 2012](#)
- [October 2012](#)
- [September 2012](#)
- [August 2012](#)
- [July 2012](#)
- [June 2012](#)
- [May 2012](#)
- [April 2012](#)
- [March 2012](#)
- [February 2012](#)
- [January 2012](#)
- [December 2011](#)
- [November 2011](#)
- [October 2011](#)
- [September 2011](#)
- [August 2011](#)
- [July 2011](#)
- [April 2011](#)
- [March 2011](#)
- [February 2011](#)
- [January 2011](#)
- [December 2010](#)
- [November 2010](#)
- [October 2010](#)
- [September 2010](#)
- [August 2010](#)
- [July 2010](#)
- [June 2010](#)
- [May 2010](#)
- [April 2010](#)
- [March 2010](#)
- [February 2010](#)
- [January 2010](#)
- [December 2009](#)
- [November 2009](#)
- [October 2009](#)
- [September 2009](#)
- [August 2009](#)
- [July 2009](#)
- [June 2009](#)
- [May 2009](#)
- [March 2009](#)
- [February 2009](#)
- [January 2009](#)
- [December 2008](#)
- [November 2008](#)
- [September 2008](#)
- [August 2008](#)
- [June 2008](#)
- [May 2008](#)
- [April 2008](#)
- [March 2008](#)
- [February 2008](#)
- [January 2008](#)
- [December 2007](#)
- [November 2007](#)
- [October 2007](#)
- [September 2007](#)
- [August 2007](#)
- [July 2007](#)
- [June 2007](#)
- [May 2007](#)
- [April 2007](#)
- [March 2007](#)
- [February 2007](#)
- [January 2007](#)

## Categories

[discipling](#)

[Blog at WordPress.com](#). [The Chateau Theme](#).

[Follow](#)





DONATE



<http://www.facebook.com/sharer.php?u=http%3A%2F%>

## Latest

[Show All](#)

Hrm.

The Wayback Machine has not archived that URL.

This page is available on the web!

Help make the Wayback Machine more complete!

Save this url in the Wayback Machine

Click here to search for all archived pages under <http://www.facebook.com/>.



The Wayback Machine is an initiative of the Internet Archive, a 501(c)(3) non-profit building a digital library of Internet sites and other cultural artifacts in digital form. Other projects include Open Library & archive-it.org.

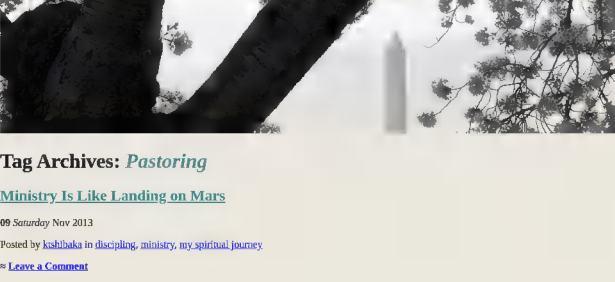
Your use of the Wayback Machine is subject to the Internet Archive's Terms of Use



- [About](#)  
• [Resources](#)  
• [Speaking](#)

## Kelly Tshibaka

### ~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional



## Tag Archives: *Pastoring*

### [Ministry Is Like Landing on Mars](#)

09 Saturday Nov 2013

Posted by [kashibaka](#) in [discipling](#), [ministry](#), [my spiritual journey](#)

• [Leave a Comment](#)

#### Tags

[Pastoring](#)

I recently heard a NASA scientist explain what it was like to build the rover that landed on Mars. Before the successful landing that has made history, his team spent 6 years and a billion-plus dollars launching a rover that crashed on the surface of Mars.

He vividly recalled the eight his team learned they failed. Learned that a near decade of work had resulted in just another crater on Mars. He was so worried about their morale.

To his surprise, everyone on the team was fine with the failure—where else do you even get the chance to build Mars rovers? Of course there's a high risk of failure. Think of all the variables! But even knowing how it went, and how high the risks were, they would all do it again.

And they did.

That's how you have to think to do well in ministry. You have to be more curious and more excited about the opportunities ahead of you than the failures behind you. More excited about new people coming into your church than demoralized about those who left. More curious about new friends/partners than devastated by those who betrayed you.

And in so doing, you, too, can make history!

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

[Quote](#)

### [Jesus Doesn't Need Makeup](#)

17 Thursday Oct 2013

Posted by [kashibaka](#) in [Church](#), [deep thoughts](#)

• [Leave a Comment](#)

#### Tags

[Pastoring](#)

If you have to put makeup on Jesus, then you're making people fall in love with an image that doesn't exist. Jesus doesn't need makeup. And if He does, then there's a problem with our understanding of who He is and what His message is.

—Pastor Niki Tshibaka

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### [Best Advice I've Received on How to Live Well](#)

17 Saturday Aug 2013

Posted by [kashibaka](#) in [deep thoughts](#), [giving thanks](#), [ministry](#), [my spiritual journey](#), [spiritual truths](#)

• [Leave a Comment](#)

#### Tags

[Parenting](#), [Pastoring](#), [Pioneering](#), [Professional](#)

"Any day spent loving God and loving people is a day well lived."—Stephen Norberg, Foursquare church planter. If at the end of my life I can look back and say that every day of my life I loved God and loved people, then I've lived life well. One way I love God is through giving thanks: delighting in the gifts of now, like soap bubbles glittering, or a dad's passing smile, or a friend's hug. A spiritual practice I keep: a gratitude journal: a list of things for which I'm thankful. I'm up to more than 1,800!

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### [Where Is God In a Friend's Murder-Suicide](#)

16 Friday Aug 2013

Posted by [kashibaka](#) in [deep thoughts](#), [spiritual truths](#)

• [Leave a Comment](#)

#### Tags

[Pastoring](#)

A man in our church is good friends with Mami. He stayed at Mami's house last month—Mami was in Israel attending his brother's funeral (his brother committed suicide). You may have heard of Mami: last week he murdered his son before taking his own life. <http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/nation/2013/08/11/father-kills-son-yaacov/2611333/>

When the monsters in the news take on a human face, when you are aware of their despair and hopelessness, you can't help but move from judgment to empathy and conviction. Oh, if only Mami had had an ounce of hope. He wasn't a monster. He was in despair.

I was moved deeply by the truth, revelation, and compassion of the man in our church as he wrote to tell us about Mami. I want to share those insights with you—

As I went for a walk, trying to make sense of the senseless, it occurred to me that God sees it all, whether He wants to or not, whether we tell Him or not.

He is the one who sees.

He has to see the senseless, the hateful, the contemptible, the awful and all the rest.

And even though He's able to stop it all, He can't stop everything because He wants to give us a choice whether or not to choose Him, because if there's no choice, it's not really love.

So in a sense, that poor child died so that I would have an opportunity to choose God.

It gave me a glimpse of how valuable I am to God.

I don't know exactly how it all works, but it is very hard being God.

I know it's not something I'm really able to do, but I want to make the depravity of this world just a little less total by living for God.

I want to let Him have His way in my life.

I don't want what happened tonight, and other unspeakably awful things, to happen as often.

I want to be a conduit of blessing.

It's not that I think I could have stopped this; that's not likely.

But tolerance puts God into situations in ways we don't entirely understand.

And given that Mami decided everything is hopeless, maybe it's good for me to maintain an attitude of hopefulness.

Even when the unspeakable happens.

After all, a good God is watching, and maybe there's just a chance that I can make what He sees a bit less painful.

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### [Inspired: A Young Man to Go For It in Ministry](#)

19 Wednesday Jun 2013

Posted by [kashibaka](#) in [discipling](#), [leadership](#), [ministry](#)

• [Leave a Comment](#)

#### Tags

[Pastoring](#)

We have a fantastic leader in our church. He has the right heart. He's full of humility. He serves when no one is looking. He takes care of people.

So we've invited him to get licensed. We don't license people to make them pastors; we license people who are already pastoring. And he fits the bill.

But despite our encouragement and invitations to get licensed, we hadn't heard anything from him. We decided not to pressure — we saw him as a pastor, but he needed to hear it from God. So we waited (and prayed).

And then we got this e-mail:

Hi, friends. I'm not entirely sure what I was waiting for, but I was waiting. Then I read [a good post from Andrew Peterson](#) this morning in which he talks about traveling to Europe even without concerters pre-booked — the opposite of how he usually does tours. The below section socked me in the gut, and I realized that if I wait for the perfect conditions to emerge, I won't ever pursue a license.

I know some of you guys have always wanted to write a book. You've always wanted to ask that girl to marry you. You've always wanted to actually build a friendship with that neighbor, or start that ministry, or right that wrong, but things just never worked out. You're waiting on the Lord, when maybe the Lord is waiting on you—he's waiting for the timing or the community. One time someone said that their mom was Catholic and their dad was atheist and that this church kinda felt like a combo of the two. And while I wasn't entirely sure I knew what that meant, I thought it was awesome.

So if it's still possible, I would like to join the merry band of potential licensors this summer. Sorry for the delays. Thanks for being such great shepherds. We love you guys!

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### [Where Is Hope When You Have None?](#)

17 Monday Jun 2013

Posted by [kashibaka](#) in [deep thoughts](#), [my spiritual journey](#), [spiritual truths](#)

• [Leave a Comment](#)

#### Tags

[Parenting](#), [Pastoring](#), [Pioneering](#), [Professional](#)

From broken hearts, to barren wombs, to merciless addictions that take us prisoners, to innocence violently stolen, to justice forsaken, to painfully debilitating health conditions, to the tyranny of loneliness, to everyday reminders of betrayal, to memories of the unthinkable, to careers dashed and finances obliterated, to searing accusations and bloodstained shame — this is what I see every day. These are the people I love every day. And the question I often get is some variation of this: "Where is hope when I have none?"

I read this blog and thought of me, thought of you all, thought of anyone who's been in the place of wanting so desperately to have a hope that will never be disappointed (or wanting to through piddlers of platitudes out the closest window...) Here's the answer.

...suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us.

—Romans 5

We had hoped Jesus was the one to redeem us. Instead, Jesus is dead, and it is we who are defeated. Those two disciples started with hope and ended with disappointment.

We had hoped Jesus was the one to redeem us. Instead, Jesus is dead, and it is we who are defeated. Those two disciples started with hope and ended with disappointment.

We had hoped Jesus was the one to redeem us. Instead, Jesus is dead, and it is we who are defeated. Those two disciples started with hope and ended with disappointment.

We had hoped Jesus was the one to redeem us. Instead, Jesus is dead, and it is we who are defeated. Those two disciples started with hope and ended with disappointment.

We had hoped Jesus was the one to redeem us. Instead, Jesus is dead, and it is we who are defeated. Those two disciples started with hope and ended with disappointment.

We had hoped Jesus was the one to redeem us. Instead, Jesus is dead, and it is we who are defeated. Those two disciples started with hope and ended with disappointment.

We had hoped Jesus was the one to redeem us. Instead, Jesus is dead, and it is we who are defeated. Those two disciples started with hope and ended with disappointment.

We had hoped Jesus was the one to redeem us. Instead, Jesus is dead, and it is we who are defeated. Those two disciples started with hope and ended with disappointment.

We had hoped Jesus was the one to redeem us. Instead, Jesus is dead, and it is we who are defeated. Those two disciples started with hope and ended with disappointment.

We had hoped Jesus was the one to redeem us. Instead, Jesus is dead, and it is we who are defeated. Those two disciples started with hope and ended with disappointment.

We had hoped Jesus was the one to redeem us. Instead, Jesus is dead, and it is we who are defeated. Those two disciples started with hope and ended with disappointment.

We had hoped Jesus was the one to redeem us. Instead, Jesus is dead, and it is we who are defeated. Those two disciples started with hope and ended with disappointment.

We had hoped Jesus was the one to redeem us. Instead, Jesus is dead, and it is we who are defeated. Those two disciples started with hope and ended with disappointment.

We had hoped Jesus was the one to redeem us. Instead, Jesus is dead, and it is we who are defeated. Those two disciples started with hope and ended with disappointment.

We had hoped Jesus was the one to redeem us. Instead, Jesus is dead, and it is we who are defeated. Those two disciples started with hope and ended with disappointment.

We had hoped Jesus was the one to redeem us. Instead, Jesus is dead, and it is we who are defeated. Those two disciples started with hope and ended with disappointment.

We had hoped Jesus was the one to redeem us. Instead, Jesus is dead, and it is we who are defeated. Those two disciples started with hope and ended with disappointment.

We had hoped Jesus was the one to redeem us. Instead, Jesus is dead, and it is we who are defeated. Those two disciples started with hope and ended with disappointment.

We had hoped Jesus was the one to redeem us. Instead, Jesus is dead, and it is we who are defeated. Those two disciples started with hope and ended with disappointment.

We had hoped Jesus was the one to redeem us. Instead, Jesus is dead, and it is we who are defeated. Those two disciples started with hope and ended with disappointment.

We had hoped Jesus was the one to redeem us. Instead, Jesus is dead, and it is we who are defeated. Those two disciples started with hope and ended with disappointment.

We had hoped Jesus was the one to redeem us. Instead, Jesus is dead, and it is we who are defeated. Those two disciples started with hope and ended with disappointment.

We had hoped Jesus was the one to redeem us. Instead, Jesus is dead, and it is we who are defeated. Those two disciples started with hope and ended with disappointment.

We had hoped Jesus was the one to redeem us. Instead, Jesus is dead, and it is we who are defeated. Those two disciples started with hope and ended with disappointment.

We had hoped Jesus was the one to redeem us. Instead, Jesus is dead, and it is we who are defeated. Those two disciples started with hope and ended with disappointment.

We had hoped Jesus was the one to redeem us. Instead, Jesus is dead, and it is we who are defeated. Those two disciples started with hope and ended with disappointment.

We had hoped Jesus was the one to redeem us. Instead, Jesus is dead, and it is we who are defeated. Those two disciples started with hope and ended with disappointment.

We had hoped Jesus was the one to redeem us. Instead, Jesus is dead, and it is we who are defeated. Those two disciples started with hope and ended with disappointment.

We had hoped Jesus was the one to redeem us. Instead, Jesus is dead, and it is we who are defeated. Those two disciples started with hope and ended with disappointment.

We had hoped Jesus was the one to redeem us. Instead, Jesus is dead, and it is we who are defeated. Those two disciples started with hope and ended with disappointment.

We had hoped Jesus was the one to redeem us. Instead, Jesus is dead, and it is we who are defeated. Those two disciples started with hope and ended with disappointment.

We had hoped Jesus was the one to redeem us. Instead, Jesus is dead, and it is we who are defeated. Those two disciples started with hope and ended with disappointment.

We had hoped Jesus was the one to redeem us. Instead, Jesus is dead, and it is we who are defeated. Those two disciples started with hope and ended with disappointment.

We had hoped Jesus was the one to redeem us. Instead, Jesus is dead, and it is we who are defeated. Those two disciples started with hope and ended with disappointment.

We had hoped Jesus was the one to redeem us. Instead, Jesus is dead, and it is we who are defeated. Those two disciples started with hope and ended with disappointment.

We had hoped Jesus was the one to redeem us. Instead, Jesus is dead, and it is we who are defeated. Those two disciples started with hope and ended with disappointment.

We had hoped Jesus was the one to redeem us. Instead, Jesus is dead, and it is we who are defeated. Those two disciples started with hope and ended with disappointment.

We had hoped Jesus was the one to redeem us. Instead, Jesus is dead, and it is we who are defeated. Those two disciples started with hope and ended with disappointment.

We had hoped Jesus was the one to redeem us. Instead, Jesus is dead, and it is we who are defeated. Those two disciples started with hope and ended with disappointment.

We had hoped Jesus was the one to redeem us. Instead, Jesus is dead, and it is we who are defeated. Those two disciples started with hope and ended with disappointment.

We had hoped Jesus was the one to redeem us. Instead, Jesus is dead, and it is we who are defeated. Those two disciples started with hope and ended with disappointment.

We had hoped Jesus was the one to redeem us. Instead, Jesus is dead, and it is we who are defeated. Those two disciples started with hope and ended with disappointment.

We had hoped Jesus was the one to redeem us. Instead, Jesus is dead, and it is we who are defeated. Those two disciples started with hope and ended with disappointment.

We had hoped Jesus was the one to redeem us. Instead, Jesus is dead, and it is we who are defeated. Those two disciples started with hope and ended with disappointment.

We had hoped Jesus was the one to redeem us. Instead, Jesus is dead, and it is we who are defeated. Those two disciples started with hope and ended with disappointment.

We had hoped Jesus was the one to redeem us. Instead, Jesus is dead, and it is we who are defeated. Those two disciples started with hope and ended with disappointment.

We had hoped Jesus was the one to redeem us. Instead, Jesus is dead, and it is we who are defeated. Those two disciples started with hope and ended with disappointment.

We had hoped Jesus was the one to redeem us. Instead, Jesus is dead, and it is we who are defeated. Those two disciples started with hope and ended with disappointment.

We had hoped Jesus was the one to redeem us. Instead, Jesus is dead, and it is we who are defeated. Those two disciples started with hope and ended with disappointment.

We had hoped Jesus was the one to redeem us. Instead, Jesus is dead, and it is we who are defeated. Those two disciples started with hope and ended with disappointment.

We had hoped Jesus was the one to redeem us. Instead, Jesus is dead, and it is we who are defeated. Those two disciples started with hope and ended with disappointment.

We had hoped Jesus was the one to redeem us. Instead, Jesus is dead, and it is we who are defeated. Those two disciples started with hope and ended with disappointment.

We had hoped Jesus was the one to redeem us. Instead, Jesus is dead, and it is we who are defeated. Those two disciples started with hope and ended with disappointment.

We had hoped Jesus was the one to redeem us. Instead, Jesus is dead, and it is we who are defeated. Those two disciples started with hope and ended with disappointment.

We had hoped Jesus was the one to redeem us. Instead, Jesus is dead, and it is we who are defeated. Those two disciples started with hope and ended with disappointment.

We had hoped Jesus was the one to redeem us. Instead, Jesus is dead, and it is we who are defeated. Those two disciples started with hope and ended with disappointment.

We had hoped Jesus was the one to redeem us. Instead, Jesus is dead, and it is we who are defeated. Those two disciples started with hope and ended with disappointment.

We had hoped Jesus was the one to redeem us. Instead, Jesus is dead, and it is we who are defeated. Those two disciples started with hope and ended with disappointment.

We had hoped Jesus was the one to redeem us. Instead, Jesus is dead, and it is we who are defeated. Those two disciples started with hope and ended with disappointment.

We had hoped Jesus was the one to redeem us. Instead, Jesus is dead, and it is we who are defeated. Those two disciples started with hope and ended with disappointment.

We had hoped Jesus was the one to redeem us. Instead, Jesus is dead, and it is we who are defeated. Those two disciples started with hope and ended with disappointment.

We had hoped Jesus was the one to redeem us. Instead, Jesus is dead, and it is we who are defeated. Those two disciples started with hope and ended with disappointment.

We had hoped Jesus was the one to redeem us. Instead, Jesus is dead, and it is we who are defeated. Those two disciples started with hope and ended with disappointment.

We had hoped Jesus was the one to redeem us. Instead, Jesus is dead, and it is we who are defeated. Those two disciples started with hope and ended with disappointment.





DONATE

INTERNET ARCHIVE  
WayBack Machine

<http://kellytshibaka.com/2013/10/30/pecking-order-of-ge>

Latest

Show All

Hrm.

The Wayback Machine has not archived that URL.

This page is available on the web!

Help make the Wayback Machine more complete!

Save this url in the Wayback Machine

Click here to search for all archived pages under  
<http://kellytshibaka.com/2013/10/30/pecking-order-of-geniuses/>.



The Wayback Machine is an initiative of the Internet Archive, a 501(c)(3) non-profit building a digital library of Internet sites and other cultural artifacts in digital form. Other projects include Open Library & archive-it.org.

Your use of the Wayback Machine is subject to the Internet Archive's Terms of Use























DONATE



<http://kellytshibaka.com/2013/11/09/ministry-is-like-land>

Latest

Show All

Hrm.

The Wayback Machine has not archived that URL.

This page is available on the web!

Help make the Wayback Machine more complete!

Save this url in the Wayback Machine

Click here to search for all archived pages under  
<http://kellytshibaka.com/2013/11/09/ministry-is-like-landing-on-mara/>.



The Wayback Machine is an initiative of the Internet Archive, a 501(c)(3) non-profit building a digital library of Internet sites and other cultural artifacts in digital form. Other projects include Open Library & archive-it.org.

Your use of the Wayback Machine is subject to the Internet Archive's Terms of Use

- Kelly Tshibaka**

~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional

## Atheist Churches

Posted by [ktshibaka](#) in [Church](#), [discipling](#), [ministry](#), [worldly matters](#)

[Leave a Comment](#)

## Tags

## Pastoring

don't know if you've heard about this phenomenon, but I thought you might find the below article interesting and sobering. It presses the question of what distinguishes our church communities from any other community organization. Here we have large groups of people following our church liturgies but without the spiritual foundation. There's an inspirational talk, community outreach/service, relationship building, and great music! But there's no Jesus!

As I read the article, I was reminded of how easily we can engage in all the trappings of "church" without truly functioning as the Body of Christ. We become all form and no substance and, in so doing, we risk being indistinguishable from these atheist "churches." I was reminded of Jon Tyson's prophetic cautioning to our Foursquare family at Connection a few years ago: "You are building a Kingdom without a King!"

Link this article is a glimpse of the direction our national culture may be heading, and of one of the ways in which the enemy is working to neutralize the Body of Christ. He subtly leads pastors into focusing our efforts and energies on perfecting the *form* of church (liturgy, programs, music, technical issues, decor, etc.) so that we lose sight of its true *substance* (the Holy Spirit who makes possible the fellowship of the saints and the ability of the Church to be the Imago Dei in the world today). Our concern about the Western Church (and even many of our Foursquare churches') resistance to the movings and workings of the Holy Spirit is warranted; I believe it is part of the enemy's strategy to render the Church an empty husk — all structure, no Spirit. With that goal accomplished, the counterfeit "atheist" churches would become more appealing to an increasingly post-modern culture, and would be virtually indistinguishable from so-called Christian churches. While these Christian churches would still have teachings about God, the Lord would see them as being no different than their "secular" alternatives, and would say of them:

"These people come near to me with their mouth  
and honor me with their lips,  
but their hearts are far from me." (Isaiah 29:13).

We know, of course, that the enemy ultimately will lose and there is much that we can do to undermine and overcome his plans. But as I read this article I had a strong conviction: (I) that the above is part of the satanic plan to anti-christ spirit of this age is employing to try and pervert and undermine the Body of Christ (What better way than to create a counterfeit church for a counterfeit Christ?); and (II) that we need to be wise to his strategies and continue to actively work to prevent his deception from taking root in our own churches and denomination. Could this be the spirit of anti-christ building its "church" in preparation for the arrival of the Son of Perdition?

Read: [Atheist Megachurch](#) news article

**Share this:**

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

**Like this:**

Like Loading...

### Related

## Post navigation

[← Previous post](#) [Next post →](#)

### Leave a Reply

## Follow Blog

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 908 other followers

## Recent Posts

- [Cure Story from Friend Who Babysat the Kids](#)
- [Atheist Churches](#)
- [Niki Made My Laugh Holy](#)
- [Ministry Is Like Landing on Mars](#)
- [I Love Family Day](#)

## Archives

- November 2013
- October 2013
- September 2013
- August 2013
- June 2013
- May 2013
- April 2013
- March 2013
- February 2013
- January 2013
- December 2012
- November 2012
- October 2012
- September 2012
- August 2012
- July 2012
- June 2012
- May 2012
- April 2012
- March 2012
- January 2012
- December 2011
- November 2011
- October 2011
- September 2011
- August 2011
- July 2011
- April 2011
- March 2011
- February 2011
- January 2011
- December 2010
- November 2010
- October 2010
- September 2010
- August 2010
- July 2010
- June 2010
- May 2010
- April 2010
- March 2010
- February 2010
- January 2010
- December 2009
- November 2009
- October 2009
- September 2009
- August 2009
- July 2009
- June 2009
- May 2009
- March 2009
- February 2009
- January 2009
- December 2008
- November 2008
- October 2008
- September 2008
- August 2008
- July 2008
- June 2008
- May 2008
- April 2008
- March 2008
- February 2008
- January 2008
- December 2007
- November 2007
- October 2007
- September 2007
- August 2007
- July 2007
- June 2007
- May 2007
- April 2007
- March 2007
- February 2007
- January 2007

## Categories

Select Category

[Blog at WordPress.com.](#) [The Chateau Theme.](#)

[Follow](#)

**Follow “Kelly Tshibaka”**

Get every new post delivered to your inbox.

Join 908 other followers

[Sign me up](#)

Powered by [WordPress.com](#)

%d bloggers like this:



INTERNET ARCHIVE  
WayBackMachine

## Latest

[Show All](#)

Hrm.

The Wayback Machine has not archived that URL.

This page is available on the web!

Help make the Wayback Machine more complete!

Save this url in the Wayback Machine

Click here to search for all archived pages under <http://www.facebook.com/>.



Your use of the Wayback Machine is subject to the Internet Archive's Terms of Use



This XML file does not appear to have any style information associated with it. The document tree is shown below.

```
▼<rss xmlns:content="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/content/" xmlns:dc="http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/" xmlns:atom="http://www.w3.org/2005/Atom"
xmlns:sy="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/syndication/" xmlns:georss="http://www.georss.org/georss" xmlns:geo="http://www.w3.org/2003/01/geo/wgs84_pos#"
xmlns:media="http://search.yahoo.com/mrss/" version="2.0">
▼<channel>
  <title>Comments on: Niki Made My Laugh Holy</title>
  <atom:link href="http://kellytshibaka.com/2013/11/11/niki-made-my-laugh-holy/feed/" rel="self" type="application/rss+xml"/>
▼<link>
  http://kellytshibaka.com/2013/11/11/niki-made-my-laugh-holy/
</link>
▼<description>
  Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional
</description>
<lastBuildDate>Fri, 25 Oct 2013 05:12:18 +0000</lastBuildDate>
<sy:updatePeriod>hourly</sy:updatePeriod>
<sy:updateFrequency>1</sy:updateFrequency>
<generator>http://wordpress.com/</generator>
</channel>
</rss>
```

## Share a link with your followers

Niki Made My Laugh Holy <http://wp.me/p2FfKS-my> via @wordpressdotcom

Username or email

Sign in and Tweet

Password

☐ Remember me · [Forgot password?](#)

### New to Twitter?

[Sign up »](#)



Don't miss any updates from **WordPress.com**. Get your account today to stay up-to-date with your interests!

[What is Twitter? Learn more.](#)

DONATE

INTERNET ARCHIVE  
**WayBack Machine**

<http://www.linkedin.com/cws/share?token&isFramed=fa>

Latest

Show All

Hrm.

The Wayback Machine has not archived that URL.

This page is available on the web!

Help make the Wayback Machine more complete!

Save this url in the Wayback Machine

Click here to search for all archived pages under  
<http://www.linkedin.com/cws/>.



The Wayback Machine is an initiative of the Internet Archive, a 501(c)(3) non-profit building a digital library of Internet sites and other cultural artifacts in digital form. Other projects include Open Library & archive-it.org.

Your use of the Wayback Machine is subject to the Internet Archive's Terms of Use



DONATE



<http://www.pinterest.com/join/?next=/pin/create/button/>

Latest

Show All

Hrm.

The Wayback Machine has not archived that URL.

This page is available on the web!

Help make the Wayback Machine more complete!

Save this url in the Wayback Machine

Click here to search for all archived pages under  
<http://www.pinterest.com/join/>.



The Wayback Machine is an initiative of the Internet Archive, a 501(c)(3) non-profit building a digital library of Internet sites and other cultural artifacts in digital form. Other projects include Open Library & archive-it.org.

Your use of the Wayback Machine is subject to the Internet Archive's Terms of Use

Powered by [WordPress.com](#)  
%d bloggers like this:

- [About](#)
- [Resources](#)
- [Speaking](#)

## Kelly Tshibaka

### ~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional

Search:



### Deeply Encouraging Words from a Leader in Our Church

17 Sunday Nov 2013

Posted by [kushibaka](#) in [discipling](#), [giving thanks](#), [leadership](#), [ministry](#), [Notes for Pastor's Wife](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

#### Tags

[Pastoring](#)

Wow, I'm going to read this and re-read this over and over any time I'm facing discouragement. This is what it's all about!

A List of Thanks for Kelly & Nikil

Thank you for always loving us; thank you for always pushing us forward.

Thank you for wanting the best for us and being a tool for the Lord to make it happen.

Thank you for helping us turn from broken, battered shells of a person into fulfilled, alive, real men and women.

Thank you for your prophetic wisdom for us and all your many prayers.

Thank you for giving us color when we feel like we're living in grayscale.

Thank you for being patient with us when we rant and cry and complain.

Thank you for never judging us or turning your back on us when you're exhausted.

Thank you for helping us have perspective and joy during trial and tribulation.

Thank you for trusting us with your sheep, thank you for turning us into shepherds.

Thank you for leading us from darkness into light; thank you for turning us into leaders who do it for others.

Thank you for being real and honest; thank you for encouraging us to be that as people.

Thank you for being imperfect and not making us be perfect when we can't be.

Thank you for your humility even though you should be proud of your accomplishments.

Thank you for sharing your feelings and helping us find ours.

Thank you for opening your home to us and making us feel like family.

Thank you for your smiles, your hugs, your warmth, and your laugh. 🥰

Thank you for being you, and being so wonderfully in our lives. 🥰

#### Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

#### Like this:

Like Loading...

#### Related

### Post navigation

[← Previous post](#) [Next post →](#)

### Leave a Reply

Email (Address never made public)

Name

Website

Notify me of follow up comments via email.

Notify me of new posts via email.

Post Comment

Search:

### Follow Blog

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 912 other followers

Follow

### Recent Posts

- [Turkey Krispies](#)
- [It Hurts When People Leave Our Church](#)
- [Deeply Encouraging Words from a Leader in Our Church](#)
- [Cute Story from Friend Who Babysat the Kids](#)
- [Atheist Churches](#)

### Archives

- [November 2013](#)
- [October 2013](#)
- [September 2013](#)
- [August 2013](#)
- [June 2013](#)
- [May 2013](#)
- [April 2013](#)
- [March 2013](#)
- [February 2013](#)
- [January 2013](#)
- [December 2012](#)
- [November 2012](#)
- [October 2012](#)
- [September 2012](#)
- [August 2012](#)
- [July 2012](#)
- [June 2012](#)
- [May 2012](#)
- [April 2012](#)
- [March 2012](#)
- [January 2012](#)
- [December 2011](#)
- [November 2011](#)
- [October 2011](#)
- [September 2011](#)
- [August 2011](#)
- [July 2011](#)
- [April 2011](#)
- [March 2011](#)
- [February 2011](#)
- [January 2011](#)
- [December 2010](#)
- [November 2010](#)
- [October 2010](#)
- [September 2010](#)
- [August 2010](#)
- [July 2010](#)
- [June 2010](#)
- [May 2010](#)
- [April 2010](#)
- [March 2010](#)
- [February 2010](#)
- [January 2010](#)
- [December 2009](#)
- [November 2009](#)
- [October 2009](#)
- [September 2009](#)
- [August 2009](#)
- [July 2009](#)
- [June 2009](#)
- [May 2009](#)
- [March 2009](#)
- [February 2009](#)
- [January 2009](#)
- [December 2008](#)
- [November 2008](#)
- [October 2008](#)
- [September 2008](#)
- [August 2008](#)
- [July 2008](#)
- [June 2008](#)
- [May 2008](#)
- [April 2008](#)
- [March 2008](#)
- [February 2008](#)
- [January 2008](#)
- [December 2007](#)
- [November 2007](#)
- [October 2007](#)
- [September 2007](#)
- [August 2007](#)
- [July 2007](#)
- [June 2007](#)
- [May 2007](#)
- [April 2007](#)
- [March 2007](#)
- [February 2007](#)
- [January 2007](#)

### Categories

Select Category ▼

[Blog at WordPress.com. The Chateau Theme.](#)

[Follow](#)

### Follow “Kelly Tshibaka”

Get every new post delivered to your Inbox.

Join 912 other followers

Enter your email address

Sign me up

Powered by [WordPress.com](#)

%d bloggers like this:



- [About](#)
- [Resources](#)
- [Speaking](#)

Kelly Tshibaka

~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional

Search:



## Turkey Krispies

27 Wednesday Nov 2013

Posted by [kushibaka](#) in [kid stories](#), [raising kids](#)

1 Comment

## Tags

My friends Maddy and Jessica Schiefer posted an inspirational photo on Facebook of chocolate Rice Krispy balls decorated like turkeys. I had to make some variations on the inspiration because I couldn't find candy corn, so we used gum drops. The gum drops were supposed to be placed along the back of the turkeys like the feathers of its tail. But I'm afraid our "Krispy Turkeys" look more like molecule models...

They still tasted great! Which is probably all the kids cared about anyway!



Share this:

- [More](#)

**Like this:**

Like Loading...

## Post navigation

[← Previous post](#)

I thought on "Turkey Krispies"



1.  Pastor Tim sold.

[November 28, 2013 at 4:15 pm](#)

I love it, Kelly!!

Reply

### Leave a Reply

Search:

## Follow Blog

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 912 other followers

## Recent Posts

- [Turkey Krispies](#)
- [It Hurts When People Leave Our Church](#)
- [Deeply Encouraging Words from a Leader in Our Church](#)
- [Cute Story from Friend Who Babysat the Kids](#)
- [Atheist Churches](#)

## Archives

- [November 2013](#)
- [October 2013](#)
- [September 2013](#)
- [August 2013](#)
- [June 2013](#)
- [May 2013](#)
- [April 2013](#)
- [March 2013](#)
- [February 2013](#)
- [January 2013](#)
- [December 2012](#)
- [November 2012](#)
- [October 2012](#)
- [September 2012](#)
- [August 2012](#)
- [July 2012](#)
- [June 2012](#)
- [May 2012](#)
- [April 2012](#)
- [March 2012](#)
- [January 2012](#)
- [December 2011](#)
- [November 2011](#)
- [October 2011](#)
- [September 2011](#)
- [August 2011](#)
- [July 2011](#)
- [April 2011](#)
- [March 2011](#)
- [February 2011](#)
- [January 2011](#)
- [December 2010](#)
- [November 2010](#)
- [October 2010](#)
- [September 2010](#)
- [August 2010](#)
- [July 2010](#)
- [June 2010](#)
- [May 2010](#)
- [April 2010](#)
- [March 2010](#)
- [February 2010](#)
- [January 2010](#)
- [December 2009](#)
- [November 2009](#)
- [October 2009](#)
- [September 2009](#)
- [August 2009](#)
- [July 2009](#)
- [June 2009](#)
- [May 2009](#)
- [March 2009](#)
- [February 2009](#)
- [January 2009](#)
- [December 2008](#)
- [November 2008](#)
- [October 2008](#)
- [September 2008](#)
- [August 2008](#)
- [July 2008](#)
- [June 2008](#)
- [May 2008](#)
- [April 2008](#)
- [March 2008](#)
- [February 2008](#)
- [January 2008](#)
- [December 2007](#)
- [November 2007](#)
- [October 2007](#)
- [September 2007](#)
- [August 2007](#)
- [July 2007](#)
- [June 2007](#)
- [May 2007](#)
- [April 2007](#)
- [March 2007](#)
- [February 2007](#)
- [January 2007](#)

## Categories

Select Category

[Blog at WordPress.com.](#) [The Chateau Theme.](#)

[Follow](#)

## Follow "Kelly Tshibaka"

Get every new post delivered to your Inbox.

Join 912 other followers

Enter your email address

[Sign me up](#)

[Powered by WordPress.com](#)

%d bloggers like this:

- ## Kelly Tshibaka

~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional

Search:



## Cute Story from Friend Who Babysat the Kids

15 Friday Nov 2013

Posted by [ktshlbaka](#) in [kid stories](#)

[Leave a Comment](#)

## Tags

## Parenting

Button: "Hey Uncle Ian, I can hum like you taught me!" ["Hum" is humming while whistling.]

Ian: "Awesome, let's burnle something!"

We start humsle-ing.

JoFish: "Stop it! That's annoying!!!"

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

**Like this:**

Like Loading...

## Post navigation

[← Previous post](#) [Next post →](#)

### Leave a Reply

☐ Notify me of follow-up comments via email.☐ Notify me of new posts via email.

Post Comment

Search:

## Follow Blog

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 912 other followers

## Recent Posts

- [Turkey Krispies](#)
- [It Hurts When People Leave Our Church](#)
- [Deeply Encouraging Words from a Leader in Our Church](#)
- [Cute Story from Friend Who Babysat the Kids](#)
- [Atheist Churches](#)

## Archives

- November 2013
- October 2013
- September 2013
- August 2013
- June 2013
- May 2013
- April 2013
- March 2013
- February 2013
- January 2013
- December 2012
- November 2012
- October 2012
- September 2012
- August 2012
- July 2012
- June 2012
- May 2012
- April 2012
- March 2012
- January 2012
- December 2011
- November 2011
- October 2011
- September 2011
- August 2011
- April 2011
- March 2011
- February 2011
- January 2011
- December 2010
- November 2010
- October 2010
- September 2010
- August 2010
- July 2010
- June 2010
- May 2010
- April 2010
- March 2010
- February 2010
- January 2010
- November 2009
- November 2009
- October 2009
- September 2009
- August 2009
- July 2009
- June 2009
- May 2009
- March 2009
- February 2009
- January 2009
- December 2008
- November 2008
- October 2008
- September 2008
- August 2008
- July 2008
- June 2008
- May 2008
- April 2008
- March 2008
- February 2008
- January 2008
- December 2007
- November 2007
- October 2007
- September 2007
- August 2007
- July 2007
- June 2007
- May 2007
- April 2007
- March 2007
- February 2007
- January 2007

## Categories

Select Category

[Blog at WordPress.com.](#) [The Chateau Theme.](#)

[Follow](#)

## Follow "Kelly Tshibaka"

Get every new post delivered to your Inbox.

Join 912 other followers

Sign me up

Powered by [WordPress.com](#)

%d bloggers like this:

- Kelly Tshibaka**

Search:



## 19 Tuesday Nov 2013

[1 Comment](#)

## Tags

### Pastoring

Let me share with you how I feel about one of our church leaders leaving. I trained her up and released her into ministry in our church, so I felt a certain morbid responsibility when she chose to walk in sin and leave our church. It kind of felt like she betrayed my trust and the trust of the people we'd entrusted her to care for. I was also pretty mad at her for hurting her ministry partners and abandoning our friendship. I felt pretty close to her because of all we had in common and all the bad times we walked through together.

What helped me get beyond all that was changing how I felt about her leaving. Instead of being mad at her for what she'd done to me and others, I turned to thinking about what a shame it is about what she's done to herself and what she's missing out on in our church community. The ministry she started and abandoned was salvaged by other leaders, but she's still missing out. And that's sad for her.

It's the same for other leaders who have left. They're learning more the hard way than they needed to have and they have less support than they could have simply because they left prematurely. Yes, I miss them a lot, but my regret is for them, not so much for me.

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

### Related

[← Previous post](#) [Next post →](#)

## 1 thought on “It Hurts When People Leave Our Church”

1.  Isaac Hovet said:

Thank you for sharing. The person who we've invested into and given room to blossom...now absent...that is painful. And irritating.

For the unrepentant leader, Jesus takes them to a place of reaping what they sow. He walks beside them while they frolic in their slop. He's leading them long before 1 am. They've graduated from us and may never return, but if they do I want them to know I trust Jesus' leadership in their lives.

His leadership transcends their stubborn heart. And, my submission to how I get to be used by Jesus for these stiff necked people reveals if the deep corners of my gullible heart fully trusts Jesus.

Thanks for a place to process my own pain this morning.

[Reply](#)

### Leave a Reply

Search:

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 912 other followers

- [Turkey Krispies](#)
- [It Hurts When People Leave Our Church](#)
- [Deeply Encouraging Words from a Leader in Our Church](#)
- [Cute Story from Friend Who Babysat the Kids](#)
- [Atheist Churches](#)

- November 2013
- October 2013
- September 2013
- August 2013
- June 2013
- May 2013
- April 2013
- March 2013
- February 2013
- January 2013
- December 2012
- November 2012
- October 2012
- September 2012
- August 2012
- July 2012
- June 2012
- May 2012
- April 2012
- March 2012
- January 2012
- December 2011
- November 2011
- October 2011
- September 2011
- August 2011
- July 2011
- April 2011
- March 2011
- February 2011
- December 2010
- November 2010
- October 2010
- September 2010
- August 2010
- July 2010
- June 2010
- May 2010
- April 2010
- March 2010
- February 2010
- January 2010
- December 2009
- November 2009
- October 2009
- September 2009
- August 2009
- July 2009
- June 2009
- May 2009
- March 2009
- February 2009
- January 2009
- December 2008
- November 2008
- October 2008
- September 2008
- August 2008
- July 2008
- June 2008
- May 2008
- April 2008
- March 2008
- February 2008
- January 2008
- December 2007
- November 2007
- October 2007
- September 2007
- August 2007
- July 2007
- June 2007
- May 2007
- April 2007
- March 2007
- February 2007
- January 2007

Select Category

[Blog at WordPress.com.](#) [The Chateau Theme.](#)

[Follow](#)

Follow "Kelly Tshibala" on Facebook

Join 912 other followers

[Sign me up](#)

Powered by WordPress.com

%d bloggers like this:



DONATE

INTERNET ARCHIVE  
**WayBack Machine**

<http://kellytshibaka.com/2013/11/11/niki-made-my-laugh>

Latest

Show All

**Hrm.**

The Wayback Machine has not archived that URL.

**This page is available on the web!**

Help make the Wayback Machine more complete!

Save this url in the Wayback Machine

Click here to search for all archived pages under  
<http://kellytshibaka.com/2013/11/11/niki-made-my-laugh-holy/>.



The Wayback Machine is an initiative of the Internet Archive, a 501(c)(3) non-profit building a digital library of Internet sites and other cultural artifacts in digital form. Other projects include Open Library & archive-it.org.

Your use of the Wayback Machine is subject to the Internet Archive's Terms of Use

This XML file does not appear to have any style information associated with it. The document tree is shown below.

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8" ?>
<rss xmlns:content="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/content/" xmlns:dc="http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/" xmlns:atom="http://www.w3.org/2005/Atom"
xmlns:sy="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/syndication/" xmlns:georss="http://www.georss.org/georss" xmlns:geo="http://www.w3.org/2003/01/geo/wgs84_pos#"
xmlns:media="http://search.yahoo.com/mrss/" version="2.0">
  <channel>
    <title>Comments on: Atheist Churches</title>
    <atom:link href="http://kellytshibaka.com/2013/11/13/atheist-churches/feed/" rel="self" type="application/rss+xml"/>
    <link>
      http://kellytshibaka.com/2013/11/13/atheist-churches/
    </link>
    <description>
      Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional
    </description>
    <lastBuildDate>Thu, 28 Nov 2013 21:15:43 +0000</lastBuildDate>
    <sy:updatePeriod>hourly</sy:updatePeriod>
    <sy:updateFrequency>1</sy:updateFrequency>
    <generator>http://wordpress.com/</generator>
  </channel>
</rss>
```

- [About](#)
- [Resources](#)
- [Speaking](#)

## Kelly Tshibaka

### ~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional

Search:



#### Siah's Thanksgiving Card to Us

30 Saturday Nov 2013

Posted by [kushibaka](#) in [giving thanks](#), [kid stories](#), [raising kids](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

##### Tags

[Parenting](#)

*Totally touched my heart*

Dear mom and dad,  
I am thankful for you loving me. Food on my plate. For you building me up. Encouraging me. Helping me. Showing me right from wrong. Thank you for being in my life.  
Love,  
Siah



##### Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

##### Like this:

Like Loading...

#### Post navigation

[← Previous post](#)

#### Leave a Reply



(Address will not be published)

☐ Notify me of follow-up comments via email.

☐ Notify me of new posts via email.

Search:

#### Follow Blog

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 912 other followers

#### Recent Posts

- [Siah's Thanksgiving Card to Us](#)
- [Turkey Krispies](#)
- [It Hurts When People Leave Our Church](#)
- [Deeply Encouraging Words from a Leader in Our Church](#)
- [Cute Story from Friend Who Babysat the Kids](#)

#### Archives

- [November 2013](#)
- [October 2013](#)
- [September 2013](#)
- [August 2013](#)
- [June 2013](#)
- [May 2013](#)
- [April 2013](#)
- [March 2013](#)
- [February 2013](#)
- [January 2013](#)
- [December 2012](#)
- [November 2012](#)
- [October 2012](#)
- [September 2012](#)
- [August 2012](#)
- [July 2012](#)
- [June 2012](#)
- [May 2012](#)
- [April 2012](#)
- [March 2012](#)
- [January 2012](#)
- [December 2011](#)
- [November 2011](#)
- [October 2011](#)
- [September 2011](#)
- [August 2011](#)
- [July 2011](#)
- [April 2011](#)
- [March 2011](#)
- [February 2011](#)
- [January 2011](#)
- [December 2010](#)
- [November 2010](#)
- [October 2010](#)
- [September 2010](#)
- [August 2010](#)
- [July 2010](#)
- [June 2010](#)
- [May 2010](#)
- [April 2010](#)
- [March 2010](#)
- [February 2010](#)
- [January 2010](#)
- [December 2009](#)
- [November 2009](#)
- [October 2009](#)
- [September 2009](#)
- [August 2009](#)
- [July 2009](#)
- [June 2009](#)
- [May 2009](#)
- [March 2009](#)
- [February 2009](#)
- [January 2009](#)
- [December 2008](#)
- [November 2008](#)
- [October 2008](#)
- [September 2008](#)
- [August 2008](#)
- [July 2008](#)
- [June 2008](#)
- [May 2008](#)
- [April 2008](#)
- [March 2008](#)
- [February 2008](#)
- [January 2008](#)
- [December 2007](#)
- [November 2007](#)
- [October 2007](#)
- [September 2007](#)
- [August 2007](#)
- [July 2007](#)
- [June 2007](#)
- [May 2007](#)
- [April 2007](#)
- [March 2007](#)
- [February 2007](#)
- [January 2007](#)

#### Categories

Select Category ▼

[Blog at WordPress.com. The Chateau Theme.](#)

[Follow](#)

#### Follow “Kelly Tshibaka”

Get every new post delivered to your Inbox.

Join 912 other followers

Powered by [WordPress.com](#)

%d bloggers like this:

This XML file does not appear to have any style information associated with it. The document tree is shown below.

```
▼<rss xmlns:content="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/content/" xmlns:dc="http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/" xmlns:atom="http://www.w3.org/2005/Atom"
xmlns:sy="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/syndication/" xmlns:georss="http://www.georss.org/georss" xmlns:geo="http://www.w3.org/2003/01/geo/wgs84_pos#"
xmlns:media="http://search.yahoo.com/mrss/" version="2.0">
▼<channel>
  ▼<title>
    Comments on: Deeply Encouraging Words from a Leader in Our Church
  </title>
  <atom:link href="http://kellytshibaka.com/2013/11/17/deeply-encouraging-words-from-a-leader-in-our-church/feed/" rel="self" type="application/rss+xml"/>
  ▼<link>
    http://kellytshibaka.com/2013/11/17/deeply-encouraging-words-from-a-leader-in-our-church/
  </link>
  ▼<description>
    Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional
  </description>
  <lastBuildDate>Sun, 01 Dec 2013 01:33:01 +0000</lastBuildDate>
  <sy:updatePeriod>hourly</sy:updatePeriod>
  <sy:updateFrequency>1</sy:updateFrequency>
  <generator>http://wordpress.com/</generator>
</channel>
</rss>
```



This XML file does not appear to have any style information associated with it. The document tree is shown below.

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8" ?>
<rss xmlns:content="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/content/" xmlns:dc="http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/" xmlns:atom="http://www.w3.org/2005/Atom"
xmlns:sy="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/syndication/" xmlns:georss="http://www.georss.org/georss" xmlns:geo="http://www.w3.org/2003/01/geo/wgs84_pos#"
xmlns:media="http://search.yahoo.com/mrss/" version="2.0">
  <channel>
    <title>Comments on: Turkey Krispies</title>
    <atom:link href="http://kellytshibaka.com/2013/11/27/turkey-crispies/feed/" rel="self" type="application/rss+xml"/>
    <link>
      http://kellytshibaka.com/2013/11/27/turkey-crispies/
    </link>
    <description>
      Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional
    </description>
    <lastBuildDate>Sun, 01 Dec 2013 01:33:01 +0000</lastBuildDate>
    <sy:updatePeriod>hourly</sy:updatePeriod>
    <sy:updateFrequency>1</sy:updateFrequency>
    <generator>http://wordpress.com/</generator>
    <item>
      <title>By: Pastor Tim</title>
      <link>
        http://kellytshibaka.com/2013/11/27/turkey-crispies/comment-page-1/#comment-763
      </link>
      <dc:creator>
        <![CDATA[ Pastor Tim ]]>
      </dc:creator>
      <pubDate>Thu, 28 Nov 2013 21:15:43 +0000</pubDate>
      <guid isPermaLink="false">
        https://kellytshibaka.wordpress.com/?p=1415#comment-763
      </guid>
      <description>
        <![CDATA[ I love it, Kelly!! ]]>
      </description>
      <content:encoded>
        <![CDATA[ <p>I love it, Kelly!!</p> ]]>
      </content:encoded>
    </item>
  </channel>
</rss>
```

This XML file does not appear to have any style information associated with it. The document tree is shown below.

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8" ?>
<rss xmlns:content="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/content/" xmlns:dc="http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/" xmlns:atom="http://www.w3.org/2005/Atom"
xmlns:sy="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/syndication/" xmlns:georss="http://www.georss.org/georss" xmlns:geo="http://www.w3.org/2003/01/geo/wgs84_pos#"
xmlns:media="http://search.yahoo.com/mrss/" version="2.0">
  <channel>
    <title>
      Comments on: Cute Story from Friend Who Babysat the Kids
    </title>
    <atom:link href="http://kellytshibaka.com/2013/11/15/cute-story-from-friend-who-babysat-the-kids/feed/" rel="self" type="application/rss+xml"/>
    <link>
      http://kellytshibaka.com/2013/11/15/cute-story-from-friend-who-babysat-the-kids/
    </link>
    <description>
      Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional
    </description>
    <lastBuildDate>Sun, 01 Dec 2013 01:33:01 +0000</lastBuildDate>
    <sy:updatePeriod>hourly</sy:updatePeriod>
    <sy:updateFrequency>1</sy:updateFrequency>
    <generator>http://wordpress.com/</generator>
  </channel>
</rss>
```

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8" ?>
<rss xmlns:content="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/content/" xmlns:dc="http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/" xmlns:atom="http://www.w3.org/2005/Atom"
xmlns:sy="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/syndication/" xmlns:georss="http://www.georss.org/georss" xmlns:geo="http://www.w3.org/2003/01/geo/wgs84_pos#"
xmlns:media="http://search.yahoo.com/mrss/" version="2.0">
  <channel>
    <title>Comments on: It Hurts When People Leave Our Church</title>
    <atom:link href="http://kellytshibaka.com/2013/11/19/it-hurts-when-people-leave-our-church/feed/" rel="self" type="application/rss+xml"/>
    <link>
      http://kellytshibaka.com/2013/11/19/it-hurts-when-people-leave-our-church/
    </link>
    <description>
      Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional
    </description>
    <lastBuildDate>Sun, 01 Dec 2013 01:33:01 +0000</lastBuildDate>
    <sy:updatePeriod>hourly</sy:updatePeriod>
    <sy:updateFrequency>1</sy:updateFrequency>
    <generator>http://wordpress.com/</generator>
    <item>
      <title>By: Isaac Hovet</title>
      <link>
        http://kellytshibaka.com/2013/11/19/it-hurts-when-people-leave-our-church/comment-page-1/#comment-760
      </link>
      <dc:creator>
        <![CDATA[ Isaac Hovet ]]>
      </dc:creator>
      <pubDate>Tue, 19 Nov 2013 14:26:39 +0000</pubDate>
      <guid isPermaLink="false">http://kellytshibaka.com/?p=1412#comment-760</guid>
      <description>
        <![CDATA[
          Thank you for sharing. The person who we've invested into and given room to blossom...now absent...that is painful. And irritating. I've tried
          to use the word "graduate." Graduation implies one has "passed", but also, "needs a different place to grow." For the
          unrepentant leader, Jesus takes them to a place of reaping what they sow. He walks beside them while they frolic in their slop. He's leading them
          long before I am. They've graduated from us and may never return, but if they do I want them to know I trust Jesus' leadership in their lives.
          His leadership transcends their stubborn heart. And, my submission to how I get to be used by Jesus for these stiff necked people reveals if the deep
          corners of my gullible heart fully trusts Jesus. Thanks for a place to process my own pain this morning.
        ]]>
      </description>
      <content:encoded>
        <![CDATA[
          <p>Thank you for sharing. The person who we've invested into and given room to blossom;now absent;that is painful. And irritating. </p>
          <p>I've tried to use the word "graduate." Graduation implies one has "passed", but also, "needs a different place to
          grow." </p> <p>For the unrepentant leader, Jesus takes them to a place of reaping what they sow. He walks beside them while they frolic in their
          slop. He's leading them long before I am. They've graduated from us and may never return, but if they do I want them to know I trust
          Jesus' leadership in their lives. </p> <p>His leadership transcends their stubborn heart. And, my submission to how I get to be used by Jesus for
          these stiff necked people reveals if the deep corners of my gullible heart fully trusts Jesus. </p> <p>Thanks for a place to process my own pain this
          morning.</p>
        ]]>
      </content:encoded>
    </item>
  </channel>
</rss>
```

This XML file does not appear to have any style information associated with it. The document tree is shown below.

```
▼<rss xmlns:content="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/content/" xmlns:dc="http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/" xmlns:atom="http://www.w3.org/2005/Atom"
xmlns:sy="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/syndication/" xmlns:georss="http://www.georss.org/georss" xmlns:geo="http://www.w3.org/2003/01/geo/wgs84_pos#"
xmlns:media="http://search.yahoo.com/mrss/" version="2.0">
▼<channel>
  <title>Comments on: Siah's Thanksgiving Card to Us</title>
  <atom:link href="http://kellytshibaka.com/2013/11/30/siahs-thanksgiving-card-to-us/feed/" rel="self" type="application/rss+xml"/>
  <link>http://kellytshibaka.com/2013/11/30/siahs-thanksgiving-card-to-us/</link>
  <description>Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional</description>
  <lastBuildDate>Sun, 01 Dec 2013 01:33:01 +0000</lastBuildDate>
  <sy:updatePeriod>hourly</sy:updatePeriod>
  <sy:updateFrequency>1</sy:updateFrequency>
  <generator>http://wordpress.com/</generator>
▼<item>
  <title>By: Pastor Tim</title>
  <link>http://kellytshibaka.com/2013/11/30/siahs-thanksgiving-card-to-us/comment-page-1/#comment-764</link>
▼<dc:creator>
  <![CDATA[ Pastor Tim ]]>
</dc:creator>
  <pubDate>Sun, 01 Dec 2013 01:33:01 +0000</pubDate>
  <guid isPermaLink="false">https://kellytshibaka.wordpress.com/?p=1421#comment-764</guid>
▼<description>
  <![CDATA[ AWESOME!! ]]>
</description>
▼<content:encoded>
  <![CDATA[ <p>AWESOME!!</p> ]]>
</content:encoded>
</item>
</channel>
</rss>
```



DONATE



<http://www.facebook.com/sharer.php?u=http%3A%2F%>

Latest

Show All

Hrm.

The Wayback Machine has not archived that URL.

This page is available on the web!

Help make the Wayback Machine more complete!

Save this url in the Wayback Machine

Click here to search for all archived pages under  
<http://www.facebook.com/>.



The Wayback Machine is an initiative of the Internet Archive, a 501(c)(3) non-profit building a digital library of Internet sites and other cultural artifacts in digital form. Other projects include Open Library & archive-it.org.

Your use of the Wayback Machine is subject to the Internet Archive's Terms of Use

## Share a link with your followers

Atheist Churches <http://wp.me/p2FfKS-mB> via @wordpressdotcom

Username or email

Sign in and Tweet

Password

☐ Remember me · [Forgot password?](#)

### New to Twitter?

[Sign up »](#)



Don't miss any updates from **WordPress.com**. Get your account today to stay up-to-date with your interests!

[What is Twitter?](#) [Learn more.](#)



DONATE



<http://pinterest.com/pin/create/button/?url=http%3A%2F>

Latest

Show All

Hrm.

The Wayback Machine has not archived that URL.

This page is available on the web!

Help make the Wayback Machine more complete!

Save this url in the Wayback Machine

Click here to search for all archived pages under  
<http://pinterest.com/pin/create/button/>.



The Wayback Machine is an initiative of the Internet Archive, a 501(c)(3) non-profit building a digital library of Internet sites and other cultural artifacts in digital form. Other projects include Open Library & archive-it.org.

Your use of the Wayback Machine is subject to the Internet Archive's Terms of Use



DONATE

INTERNET ARCHIVE  
**Wayback Machine**

<http://www.linkedin.com/cws/share?token&isFramed=fa>

Latest

Show All

Hrm.

The Wayback Machine has not archived that URL.

**This page is available on the web!**

Help make the Wayback Machine more complete!

Save this url in the Wayback Machine

Click here to search for all archived pages under  
<http://www.linkedin.com/cws/>.



The Wayback Machine is an initiative of the Internet Archive, a 501(c)(3) non-profit building a digital library of Internet sites and other cultural artifacts in digital form. Other projects include Open Library & archive-it.org.

Your use of the Wayback Machine is subject to the Internet Archive's Terms of Use

Powered by [WordPress](#)  
%d bloggers like this:









```
<meta content="url=http://g.gravatar.com/avatar/196689194567c728486ca3fcd80c?
s=64&http3k=242&f=g.gravatar.com&v=2&f=1&569a31c05a435ac9b6853993f3c30d968+p0" medium="image">
</meta>
<meta content="url=http://www.katahiro.dev" medium="title">
</meta>
<meta content="url=http://www.blogger.googleusercontent.com/tracker/4236897254437589257-6246715668974669906?i=snaphostfromkyle.y.blogspot.com" medium="image">
</meta>
</html>
</channel>
</rss>
```

DONATE



<http://kellytshibaka.com/2013/11/13/atheist-churches/?s>

Latest

Show All

Hrm.

The Wayback Machine has not archived that URL.

This page is available on the web!

Help make the Wayback Machine more complete!

Save this url in the Wayback Machine

Click here to search for all archived pages under  
<http://kellytshibaka.com/2013/11/13/atheist-churches/>.



The Wayback Machine is an initiative of the Internet Archive, a 501(c)(3) non-profit building a digital library of Internet sites and other cultural artifacts in digital form. Other projects include Open Library & archive-it.org.

Your use of the Wayback Machine is subject to the Internet Archive's Terms of Use



- [About](#)
- [Resources](#)
- [Speaking](#)

**Kelly Tshibaka**

~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional

Search:



## Post-Pregnancy Bodies...

03 Tuesday Dec 2013

Posted by [kushibaka](#) in [women's topics](#)

[≈ Leave a Comment](#)

LOL-my post-babIES body would generate a different kind of controversy...

Must be nice to be this mom (let's face it — I didn't have this kind of muscle tone even BEFORE I got pregnant, so...)

### New Mom Sparks Controversy with Post-Baby Body

**Share this:**

- [More](#)

Like this:

Like Loading...

## Post navigation

[← Previous post](#) [Next post →](#)

### Leave a Reply

☐ Notify me of follow-up comments via email☐ Notify me of new posts via email

Post Comment

Search:

Join 914 other followers

## Recent Posts

- [Do You Love Me?](#)
- [Post-Pregnancy Bodies...](#)
- [Siah's Thanksgiving Card to Us](#)
- [Turkey Krispies](#)
- [It Hurts When People Leave Our Church](#)

## Archives

- December 2013  
 November 2013  
 October 2013  
 September 2013  
 August 2013  
 June 2013  
 May 2013  
 April 2013  
 March 2013  
 February 2013  
 January 2013  
 December 2012  
 November 2012  
 October 2012  
 September 2012  
 August 2012  
 July 2012  
 June 2012  
 May 2012  
 April 2012  
 March 2012  
 January 2012  
 December 2011  
 November 2011  
 October 2011  
 September 2011  
 August 2011  
 July 2011  
 April 2011  
 March 2011  
 February 2011  
 January 2011  
 December 2010  
 November 2010  
 October 2010  
 September 2010  
 August 2010  
 July 2010  
 June 2010  
 May 2010  
 April 2010  
 March 2010  
 February 2010  
 January 2010  
 December 2009  
 November 2009  
 October 2009  
 September 2009  
 August 2009  
 July 2009  
 June 2009  
 May 2009  
 March 2009  
 February 2009  
 January 2009  
 December 2008  
 November 2008  
 October 2008  
 September 2008  
 August 2008  
 July 2008  
 June 2008  
 May 2008  
 April 2008  
 March 2008  
 February 2008  
 January 2008  
 December 2007  
 November 2007  
 October 2007  
 September 2007  
 August 2007  
 July 2007  
 June 2007  
 May 2007  
 April 2007  
 March 2007  
 February 2007  
 January 2007

## Categories

Select Category ▼

[Blog at WordPress.com. The Chateau Theme.](#)

[Follow](#)

## Follow "Kelly Tshibaka"

Get every new post delivered to your Inbox.

Join 914 other followers

[Sign me up](#)

Powered by [WordPress.com](#)

%d bloggers like this:





This XML file does not appear to have any style information associated with it. The document tree is shown below.

```
▼<rss xmlns:content="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/content/" xmlns:dc="http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/" xmlns:atom="http://www.w3.org/2005/Atom"
xmlns:sy="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/syndication/" xmlns:georss="http://www.georss.org/georss" xmlns:geo="http://www.w3.org/2003/01/geo/wgs84_pos#"
xmlns:media="http://search.yahoo.com/mrss/" version="2.0">
▼<channel>
  <title>Comments on: Post-Pregnancy Bodies...</title>
  <atom:link href="http://kellytshibaka.com/2013/12/03/post-pregnancy-bodies/feed/" rel="self" type="application/rss+xml"/>
▼<link>
  http://kellytshibaka.com/2013/12/03/post-pregnancy-bodies/
</link>
▼<description>
  Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional
</description>
<lastBuildDate>Fri, 06 Dec 2013 17:17:04 +0000</lastBuildDate>
<sy:updatePeriod>hourly</sy:updatePeriod>
<sy:updateFrequency>1</sy:updateFrequency>
<generator>http://wordpress.com/</generator>
</channel>
</rss>
```

- ## Kelly Tshibaka

Search:



## 07.Saturday Dec 2013

Posted by [kishibaka](#) in [kid stories](#), [raising kids](#), [recommendations](#)

[✉ Leave a Comment](#)

## Tags

## Parenting

So we rolled into Advent right after Thanksgiving and I set out to find ways to drive home the purpose and gift of Christmas with the kids. Part of my renewed zeal comes from feeling like we missed the last two Christmases (2011 was robbed with a major life crisis, and 2012 was a casualty of our emergency move from our first home).

It's not like I have this down...I'm still exploring. Borrowing other people's ideas, coming up with my own, and just seeing what works. So as I stumble upon things, I'm going to share them here.

Success 1: Get Christmas done before Advent. This worked REALLY well, but truthfully, I didn't get done till about a week into December. Regardless, I feel a LOT less stressed because all my Christmas-in-a-day, done. Presents acquired, wrapped, and mailed. I really couldn't do enough the virtues of Amazon.com, their on-line feature (which I used to capture ideas all year) and their Prime membership, which cost everything here, record fast. Now I can just sit back and enjoy.

Success 2: Find magical moments. This year we got tickets to the Ice! exhibit at the Gaylord National hotel at a crazy discount on livingsocial. The whole area is built out into a winter wonderland made of ice carvings! The theme was the Night Before Christmas, so the kids and I read that book every night for the first week of December. We surprised them after school with the adventure to the Gaylord – the Ice! exhibit was a huge hit, as was the hotel itself, the indoor snowfall in the lobby, the fountain light show choreographed to Christmas music, the glass elevator, and dinner at one of the restaurants at the hotel. Sliah said it was a night he will ALWAYS remember. *The greatest gift we can give our children is the gift of memories.*

**Success 3: Burtan was quite inspired by the local Chadian radio station's collection of shoeboxes full of gifts for kids in 3rd world countries. So she spearheaded our family making 3 shoeboxes for the kids. The kids made sure to fill them with stuff that they would love if they were receiving the box themselves. I was really touched when Siah included one of his favorite stuffed animals.**

**Success 5:** Christmas decor and candles! Oh, how much the look and scents of Christmas add to the spirit of Advent. I love how our home looks this year—and I just hang all the lights outside. Had a genius moment—instead of stapling all the lights up, I drilled ceiling hooks into the roof and just strung the lights between them. It looks better, it was so much easier, and I can only imagine how easy it'll be next year! Not to mention that I now have places to hang flower baskets.

Success 6: Christmas food. Mmmmm pumpkin pecan pancakes, egg nog, cider, sugar cookies, peppermint anything, candy, Advent Calendars, etc. I'm going for a 5-senses experience for the whole Advent season.

More success ideas to come!



At the Ice! Exhibit with an amazing  
ice-sculpture life-sized nativity  
scene and a fussy baby!



**Share this:**

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

Like this:

Like Loading...

### Related

## Post navigation

[← Previous post](#) [Next post →](#)

### Leave a Reply

Search:

## Follow Blog

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 915 other followers

## Recent Posts

- [How Do You Know If You're a Leader?](#)
- [Walking in a Winter Wonderland](#)
- [Advent Adventures \(part 1\)](#)
- [Do You Love Me?](#)
- [Post-Pregnancy Bodies...](#)

## Archives

- December 2013
- November 2013
- October 2013
- September 2013
- August 2013
- June 2013
- May 2013
- April 2013
- March 2013
- February 2013
- January 2013
- December 2012
- November 2012
- October 2012
- September 2012
- August 2012
- July 2012
- June 2012
- May 2012
- April 2012
- March 2012
- February 2012
- January 2012
- December 2011
- November 2011
- October 2011
- September 2011
- August 2011
- July 2011
- April 2011
- March 2011
- February 2011
- January 2011
- December 2010
- November 2010
- October 2010
- September 2010
- August 2010
- July 2010
- June 2010
- May 2010
- April 2010
- March 2010
- February 2010
- January 2010
- December 2009
- November 2009
- October 2009
- September 2009
- August 2009
- July 2009
- June 2009
- May 2009
- April 2009
- March 2009
- February 2009
- January 2009
- December 2008
- November 2008
- October 2008
- September 2008
- August 2008
- July 2008
- June 2008
- May 2008
- April 2008
- March 2008
- February 2008
- January 2008
- December 2007
- November 2007
- October 2007
- September 2007
- August 2007
- July 2007
- June 2007
- May 2007
- April 2007
- March 2007
- February 2007
- January 2007

## Categories

Select Category

[Blog at WordPress.com.](#) [The Chateau Theme.](#)

[Follow](#)

**Follow “Kelly Tshibaka”**

Get every new post delivered to your inbox.

Join 915 other followers

Enter your email address

[Sign me up](#)

Powered by [wordpress.com](http://www.wordpress.com)

- [About](#)
- [Resources](#)
- [Speaking](#)

## Kelly Tshibaka

~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional

Search:

Go



### Walking in a Winter Wonderland

09 Monday Dec 2013

Posted by [kushibaka](#) in [Uncategorized](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)



#### Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

#### Like this:

Like Loading...

#### Post navigation

[← Previous post](#) [Next post →](#)

#### Leave a Reply

(Address never made public)

☐ Notify me of follow-up comments via email.

☐ Notify me of new posts via email.

Post Comment

Search:

Go

#### Follow Blog

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 915 other followers

Follow

#### Recent Posts

- [How Do You Know If You're a Leader?](#)
- [Walking in a Winter Wonderland](#)
- [Advent Adventures \(part 1\)](#)
- [Do You Love Me?](#)
- [Post-Pregnancy Bodies...](#)

#### Archives

- [December 2013](#)
- [November 2013](#)
- [October 2013](#)
- [September 2013](#)
- [August 2013](#)
- [June 2013](#)
- [May 2013](#)
- [April 2013](#)
- [March 2013](#)
- [February 2013](#)
- [January 2013](#)
- [December 2012](#)
- [November 2012](#)
- [October 2012](#)
- [September 2012](#)
- [August 2012](#)
- [July 2012](#)
- [June 2012](#)
- [May 2012](#)
- [April 2012](#)
- [March 2012](#)
- [January 2012](#)
- [December 2011](#)
- [November 2011](#)
- [October 2011](#)
- [September 2011](#)
- [August 2011](#)
- [July 2011](#)
- [April 2011](#)
- [March 2011](#)
- [February 2011](#)
- [January 2011](#)
- [December 2010](#)
- [November 2010](#)
- [October 2010](#)
- [September 2010](#)
- [August 2010](#)
- [July 2010](#)
- [June 2010](#)
- [May 2010](#)
- [April 2010](#)
- [March 2010](#)
- [February 2010](#)
- [January 2010](#)
- [December 2009](#)
- [November 2009](#)
- [October 2009](#)
- [September 2009](#)
- [August 2009](#)
- [July 2009](#)
- [June 2009](#)
- [May 2009](#)
- [March 2009](#)
- [February 2009](#)
- [January 2009](#)
- [December 2008](#)
- [November 2008](#)
- [October 2008](#)
- [September 2008](#)
- [August 2008](#)
- [July 2008](#)
- [June 2008](#)
- [May 2008](#)
- [April 2008](#)
- [March 2008](#)
- [February 2008](#)
- [January 2008](#)
- [December 2007](#)
- [November 2007](#)
- [October 2007](#)
- [September 2007](#)
- [August 2007](#)
- [July 2007](#)
- [June 2007](#)
- [May 2007](#)
- [April 2007](#)
- [March 2007](#)
- [February 2007](#)
- [January 2007](#)

#### Categories

Select Category

▼

[Blog at WordPress.com.](#) [The Chateau Theme.](#)

[Follow](#)

#### Follow “Kelly Tshibaka”

Get every new post delivered to your Inbox.

Join 915 other followers

Sign me up

Powered by [WordPress.com](#)

%d bloggers like this:

- [About](#)
- [Resources](#)
- [Speaking](#)

## Kelly Tshibaka

~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional

Search:



### How Do You Know If You're a Leader?

09 Monday Dec 2013

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [deep thoughts](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

Tags

[Pastoring](#)

How do you know if you're a leader? Look behind you. If people are following you, you're a leader. If they're not, you're just out for a walk.

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

Like this:

Like Loading...

### Post navigation

[← Previous post](#)

Leave a Reply

Email

(Address never made public)

Name

Website

Notify me of follow-up comments via email.

Notify me of new posts via email.

Post Comment

### Follow Blog

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 915 other followers

Follow

### Recent Posts

- [How Do You Know If You're a Leader?](#)
- [Walking In a Winter Wonderland](#)
- [Advent Adventures \(part 1\)](#)
- [Do You Love Me?](#)
- [Post-Pregnancy Bodies...](#)

### Archives

- [December 2013](#)
- [November 2013](#)
- [October 2013](#)
- [September 2013](#)
- [August 2013](#)
- [June 2013](#)
- [May 2013](#)
- [April 2013](#)
- [March 2013](#)
- [February 2013](#)
- [January 2013](#)
- [December 2012](#)
- [November 2012](#)
- [October 2012](#)
- [September 2012](#)
- [August 2012](#)
- [July 2012](#)
- [June 2012](#)
- [May 2012](#)
- [April 2012](#)
- [March 2012](#)
- [January 2012](#)
- [December 2011](#)
- [November 2011](#)
- [October 2011](#)
- [September 2011](#)
- [August 2011](#)
- [July 2011](#)
- [April 2011](#)
- [March 2011](#)
- [February 2011](#)
- [January 2011](#)
- [December 2010](#)
- [November 2010](#)
- [October 2010](#)
- [September 2010](#)
- [August 2010](#)
- [July 2010](#)
- [June 2010](#)
- [May 2010](#)
- [April 2010](#)
- [March 2010](#)
- [February 2010](#)
- [January 2010](#)
- [December 2009](#)
- [November 2009](#)
- [October 2009](#)
- [September 2009](#)
- [August 2009](#)
- [July 2009](#)
- [June 2009](#)
- [May 2009](#)
- [March 2009](#)
- [February 2009](#)
- [January 2009](#)
- [December 2008](#)
- [November 2008](#)
- [October 2008](#)
- [September 2008](#)
- [August 2008](#)
- [July 2008](#)
- [June 2008](#)
- [May 2008](#)
- [April 2008](#)
- [March 2008](#)
- [February 2008](#)
- [January 2008](#)
- [December 2007](#)
- [November 2007](#)
- [October 2007](#)
- [September 2007](#)
- [August 2007](#)
- [July 2007](#)
- [June 2007](#)
- [May 2007](#)
- [April 2007](#)
- [March 2007](#)
- [February 2007](#)
- [January 2007](#)

### Categories

Select Category ▾

[Blog at WordPress.com. The Chateau Theme.](#)

[Follow](#)

Follow “Kelly Tshibaka”

Get every new post delivered to your Inbox.

Join 915 other followers

Enter your email address

[Powered by WordPress.com](#)

%d bloggers like this:



# Kelly Tshibaka ~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional

Search...

Go



13  
Friday  
Dec. 2013

## Great Parenting Tips

POSTED BY KATHLEEN BERCHTMANN

LEAVE A COMMENT

I'm reblogging Dr. Kathleen Berchtmann's post on *Five Tricks to a Peaceful Home*. Dr. Berchtmann went to college with Nik! I don't agree with everything she says, but I found most of her tips to be refreshing, creative, original, and helpful! We've implemented several of these ideas in the past week and they have **WORKED!** So take from this what works for you... and have fun raising these precious eternal souls in your care!

It's hard to say my home is peaceful—we have five kids ages 9, 7, 4, 2, and 2 months. But 2 years ago we made intentional changes in our parenting that have brought peaceful moments to our daily life—kids working, cooking, and playing together without that screaming, jealousy and sibling rivalry that used to plague all our time together. Changing our parenting was very hard—our unexpected switch to homeschooling really forced my husband and I to get on the same page with our parenting techniques, and be very intentional about our parenting choices. But homeschooling or not, every family needs peaceful times together. **Peace isn't a want, it's a need. If your family is going to stay together, love each other, and be a family, you need to teach how to live in peace.** Here are the five approaches that have helped our family be more peaceful:

**1) Attitude is a choice:** I say it all the time, like a broken record, "Attitude is a choice." We teach our kids the difference between emotion and attitude. You may not be able to control your emotions or feelings inside, but you can control your attitude. Our four-year-old may be consumed with jealousy that his sister got the biggest taco, but he needs to control his attitude and ask nicely to share rather than grabbing it off her plate.

When I was a brand-new physician, I learned to control my attitude the hard way. A baby I had spent several months caring for in the hospital died unexpectedly. I spent two hours with a team of health care providers doing CPR, pushing cardiac drugs, and trying to save his life. And he still died. I sat with his family and cried. By the time it was all over I had a backlog of patients who had been waiting too long to see me. Tired and stressed, I fought back the tears and saw my next patient. While seeing my next patient I was impersonal and made a comment this family found rude. They complained to my boss about my bad attitude, and I got in trouble. I learned the hard truth—it doesn't matter if my last patient died, I have to walk into every patient room with a smile on my face and a good attitude. Attitude is a choice, even if emotion is not.

If I don't teach my kids attitude-control, someone else will, and not very nicely. Sometimes, as a form of discipline, my kids even have to write essays about how to choose a good attitude. It might seem harsh, but learning attitude-control is fundamental for success in any walk of life. Kids with bad attitudes struggle to make and keep friends at school. Grown-ups with bad attitudes are the first to get fired, no matter how smart, attractive, or skilled they are.

Oh, and I have to control my attitude at home, too. When I am not cheerful, my kids throw it right back at me, "Mommy, attitude is a choice!" They love to say this if I get angry, which brings me to #2...

**2) Words can hurt more than spanking.** I don't spank or hit my kids, but it took me too long to realize that I could be just as hurtful with my words. I've said things I could never publish in a blog post. I did it because it worked—it actually made my kids change their behavior. But behavior change that comes from hurt—physical or emotional—isn't long-term effective behavior change. As parents, we have to use kind words, even when we are frustrated and angry. Yell less, or hopefully don't yell at all.

Instead of getting angry, label behavior. I got this from Sesame Street—there's one scene where Cookie Monster is accused of lying about stealing cookies. Frustrated and upset, Cookie Monster says, "Me glutton, not liar." If Sesame Street can use words like "gluttony" to label behavior, so can I. So now we use words like "jealousy," "gluttony," "patience," "kindness," "diligence," and "charity." It sounded weird at first, but now I love it when six-year-old tells her teasing brother, "That's not charity!"

These days we are much better at giving consequences without yelling or anger. If there's hitting, I just say, "That's not kindness," and send the child to time-out, which in our house is in the bathroom (so you can't say, "I need to go potty!"). Older kids often have to write an essay reflecting on their behavior while they are in time-out. Sometimes we give out extra chores, make kids do chores for someone they have offended, or use natural consequences (ie: If you draw on your clothes you still have to wear those clothes).

Unkind words are not acceptable between siblings, either. **There is no freedom of speech inside our home.** I don't subscribe to, "sticks and stones can break my bones but words will never hurt me." We give consequences for being a mean sibling, and ask our kids to think about why they wanted to be mean. I do explain to my kids, though, that in the world outside the home we have freedom of speech, and it's legal to say mean things, and we still can't hit back, which brings me to #3...

**3) Cut out all physical violence—all of it.** I see "rough play" and "sibling rivalry" in the ER all the time, kids whose sibling pushed them off a bunk bed, rode over them with a bike, twisted their arm while wrestling, etc. Usually the whole family is in the ER and everyone's laughing about the incident. But a broken leg just isn't funny to the victim (or the parents paying the ER co-pay). An angry little slap or push between siblings is still an assault. If a behavior is illegal outside the home, it's not acceptable inside the home.

Sibling bullying is real and causes both mental and physical illness. A 2013 pediatric research study found that kids who experience sibling aggressive behavior have a higher rate of mental illness.

Have a no-tolerance policy for any physical violence—slapping, kicking, spitting, biting, wedgies, pushing pencils into skin, and anything else they can think of. We talk about unacceptable behavior and the consequences thereof each morning at our family meeting, which brings me to #4...

**4) Have a family meeting every morning:** Every school classroom, from pre-K through high school, starts with a morning "meeting" or announcements. Why? Because setting expectations prevents debating and misbehavior. When our kids were in school we had our "meeting" in the car on the way to school each day. Now, as homeschoolers, we do it in the living room. We talk over the schedule for the day, set expectations for behavior, and clearly define consequences for misbehavior. I'll say to my 4-year-old, "Your brother has a piano lesson at 3:30. If you can read books with me without whining through the lesson, we'll build that Lego dinosaur together when we get home." We also discuss dinner and ideas for family outings. Once the kids know what they have to look forward to, they are motivated to get through their work for the day. Which brings me to #5...

**5) Plan lots of fun stuff:** Fun activities are my currency as a mom—my motivation to get my kids (and me) to work hard. Plan something fun for your family every day—even if it's just a good dinner, or 20 minutes of family Lego building before bed. I have to intentionally plan this stuff, even dinner. Between soccer, dance, choir, and scouts it's hard to actually do anything together as a family if it's not planned. It's tempting to skip family dinner due to tightly packed evening practices. About once a week we schedule a family outing together. It's really true—the family that plays together stays together.

Establishing a framework for peace, even if it isn't always 100% successful, will give your kids the skills and disposition to gracefully manage their future relationships with friends, family, co-workers, neighbors, bosses, and authority figures. And your home will be a much more peaceful — and happy — place.

Originally posted at [http://thechildrensdm.org/browse-by-age-group/toddler-pre-school/live-ticks-peaceful-home-kids/?utm\\_source=rss&utm\\_medium=rss&utm\\_campaign=five-ticks-peaceful-home-kids](http://thechildrensdm.org/browse-by-age-group/toddler-pre-school/live-ticks-peaceful-home-kids/?utm_source=rss&utm_medium=rss&utm_campaign=five-ticks-peaceful-home-kids)

Share this: [Twitter](#) [Facebook](#) [Google+](#) [LinkedIn](#) [Print](#)

Like this: [Like Loading...](#)

← Previous post

LEAVE A REPLY

Enter your comment here

Search...

FOLLOW BLOG

Enter your email address to follow the blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 937 other followers

RECENT POSTS

- Great Parenting Tips
- How Do You Know if You're a Leader?
- Walking in a Winter Wonderland
- Advent Adventures (part 1)
- Do You Love Me?

ARCHIVES

- December 2013
- November 2013
- October 2013
- September 2013
- August 2013
- June 2013
- May 2013
- April 2013
- March 2013
- February 2013
- January 2013
- December 2012
- November 2012
- October 2012
- September 2012
- August 2012
- July 2012
- June 2012
- May 2012
- April 2012
- March 2012
- January 2012
- December 2011
- November 2011
- October 2011
- September 2011
- August 2011
- July 2011
- April 2011
- March 2011
- February 2011
- January 2011
- December 2010
- November 2010
- October 2010
- September 2010
- August 2010
- July 2010
- June 2010
- May 2010
- April 2010
- March 2010
- February 2010
- January 2010
- December 2009
- November 2009
- October 2009
- September 2009
- August 2009
- July 2009
- June 2009
- May 2009
- March 2009
- February 2009
- January 2009
- December 2008
- November 2008
- October 2008
- September 2008
- August 2008
- July 2008
- June 2008
- May 2008
- April 2008
- March 2008
- February 2008
- January 2008
- December 2007
- November 2007
- October 2007
- September 2007
- August 2007
- July 2007
- June 2007
- May 2007
- April 2007
- March 2007
- February 2007
- January 2007

CATEGORIES

Select Category

This XML file does not appear to have any style information associated with it. The document tree is shown below.

```
▼<rss xmlns:content="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/content/" xmlns:dc="http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/" xmlns:atom="http://www.w3.org/2005/Atom"
xmlns:sy="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/syndication/" xmlns:georss="http://www.georss.org/georss" xmlns:geo="http://www.w3.org/2003/01/geo/wgs84_pos#"
xmlns:media="http://search.yahoo.com/mrss/" version="2.0">
▼<channel>
  <title>Comments on: Great Parenting Tips</title>
  <atom:link href="http://kellytshibaka.com/2013/12/13/great-parenting-tips/feed/" rel="self" type="application/rss+xml"/>
  <link>http://kellytshibaka.com/2013/12/13/great-parenting-tips/</link>
  <description>Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional</description>
  <lastBuildDate>Fri, 06 Dec 2013 17:17:04 +0000</lastBuildDate>
  <sy:updatePeriod>hourly</sy:updatePeriod>
  <sy:updateFrequency>1</sy:updateFrequency>
  <generator>http://wordpress.com/</generator>
</channel>
</rss>
```

DONATE



<http://www.linkedin.com/cws/share?token&isFramed=fa>

Latest

Show All

Hrm.

The Wayback Machine has not archived that URL.

This page is available on the web!

Help make the Wayback Machine more complete!

Save this url in the Wayback Machine

Click here to search for all archived pages under  
<http://www.linkedin.com/cws/>.



The Wayback Machine is an initiative of the Internet Archive, a 501(c)(3) non-profit building a digital library of Internet sites and other cultural artifacts in digital form. Other projects include Open Library & archive-it.org.

Your use of the Wayback Machine is subject to the Internet Archive's Terms of Use

- [About](#)
- [Resources](#)
- [Speaking](#)

## Kelly Tshibaka

### ~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional



### Finding the Sacred in Parenting

15 Sunday Dec 2013

Posted by [kishibaka](#) in [deep thoughts](#), [discipling](#), [my spiritual journey](#), [raising kids](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

#### Tags

[Parenting](#)

Repost of a note written by my friend, Jen:

By Jennifer Neve Manginelli  
If God is at all at work in me during this season, I am convinced that the four walls of our home and the four little sets of eyes that look up at me are his workshop. Some days I feel as if the world is passing me by, as I am lost in a sea of mental tasks that are never ending.

Yet I know deep down that every bum that I wipe and potty accident I clean up are actually acts of worship. When I am mindful of this, I have renewed passion for the monotony of this season.

But, then there are the days when I feel overwhelmed . . . not so much with the task, but the realization that I am completely insufficient for it. Instead of modeling self-control, I let my frustration get the better of me. Instead of gentle words of correction, my tone betrays my own feelings of selfishness. Those are the heavy days.

But I am coming to realize that the Holy Spirit is shaping me (probably the most) in these moments. I no longer think of motherhood as a “time out” in my becoming . . . but a fast track. These private moments of sacrifice and surrender are the meat and potatoes of spiritual formation. They aren’t acquired by degrees or theology books, but they go the distance. And even when I despair when I look at my apparent lack of progress, Jesus is with me and promises that he will go the distance; that in each and every moment he is committed to conforming me into the image of his Son.

#### Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

#### Like this:

Like Loading...

#### Related

### Post navigation

[← Previous post](#)

#### Leave a Reply

Email (Address never made public)

Name

Website

☐ Notify me of follow-up comments via email.  
☐ Notify me of new posts via email.

Search:

### Follow Blog

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 917 other followers

### Recent Posts

- [Finding the Sacred in Parenting](#)
- [Great Parenting Tips](#)
- [How Do You Know If You’re a Leader?](#)
- [Walking in a Winter Wonderland](#)
- [Advent Adventures \(part 1\)](#)

### Archives

- [December 2013](#)
- [November 2013](#)
- [October 2013](#)
- [September 2013](#)
- [August 2013](#)
- [June 2013](#)
- [May 2013](#)
- [April 2013](#)
- [March 2013](#)
- [February 2013](#)
- [January 2013](#)
- [December 2012](#)
- [November 2012](#)
- [October 2012](#)
- [September 2012](#)
- [August 2012](#)
- [July 2012](#)
- [June 2012](#)
- [May 2012](#)
- [April 2012](#)
- [March 2012](#)
- [January 2012](#)
- [December 2011](#)
- [November 2011](#)
- [October 2011](#)
- [September 2011](#)
- [August 2011](#)
- [July 2011](#)
- [April 2011](#)
- [March 2011](#)
- [February 2011](#)
- [January 2011](#)
- [December 2010](#)
- [November 2010](#)
- [October 2010](#)
- [September 2010](#)
- [August 2010](#)
- [July 2010](#)
- [June 2010](#)
- [May 2010](#)
- [April 2010](#)
- [March 2010](#)
- [February 2010](#)
- [January 2010](#)
- [December 2009](#)
- [November 2009](#)
- [October 2009](#)
- [September 2009](#)
- [August 2009](#)
- [July 2009](#)
- [June 2009](#)
- [May 2009](#)
- [March 2009](#)
- [February 2009](#)
- [January 2009](#)
- [December 2008](#)
- [November 2008](#)
- [October 2008](#)
- [September 2008](#)
- [August 2008](#)
- [July 2008](#)
- [June 2008](#)
- [May 2008](#)
- [April 2008](#)
- [March 2008](#)
- [February 2008](#)
- [January 2008](#)
- [December 2007](#)
- [November 2007](#)
- [October 2007](#)
- [September 2007](#)
- [August 2007](#)
- [July 2007](#)
- [June 2007](#)
- [May 2007](#)
- [April 2007](#)
- [March 2007](#)
- [February 2007](#)
- [January 2007](#)

### Categories

Select Category ▾

[Blog at WordPress.com. The Chateau Theme.](#)

[Follow](#)

#### Follow “Kelly Tshibaka”

Get every new post delivered to your Inbox.

Join 917 other followers

Powered by [WordPress.com](#)

%6d bloggers like this:



This XML file does not appear to have any style information associated with it. The document tree is shown below.

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8" ?>
<rss xmlns:content="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/content/" xmlns:dc="http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/" xmlns:atom="http://www.w3.org/2005/Atom"
xmlns:sy="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/syndication/" xmlns:georss="http://www.georss.org/georss" xmlns:geo="http://www.w3.org/2003/01/geo/wgs84_pos#"
xmlns:media="http://search.yahoo.com/mrss/" version="2.0">
  <channel>
    <title>Comments on: Finding the Sacred in Parenting</title>
    <atom:link href="http://kellytshibaka.com/2013/12/15/finding-the-sacred-in-parenting/feed/" rel="self" type="application/rss+xml"/>
    <link>
      http://kellytshibaka.com/2013/12/15/finding-the-sacred-in-parenting/
    </link>
    <description>
      Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional
    </description>
    <lastBuildDate>Wed, 18 Dec 2013 05:14:06 +0000</lastBuildDate>
    <sy:updatePeriod>hourly</sy:updatePeriod>
    <sy:updateFrequency>1</sy:updateFrequency>
    <generator>http://wordpress.com/</generator>
  </channel>
</rss>
```

%d bloggers like this:

- [About](#)
- [Resources](#)
- [Speaking](#)

## Kelly Tshibaka

### ~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional

Search:



## Christmas Letter from the Tshibakas

[24 Tuesday Dec 2013](#)

Posted by [kushibaka](#) in [personal](#)

≈ [3 Comments](#)

#### Tags

[Parenting, Pastoring, Pioneering, Professional](#)

Merry Christmas!

We just wanted to write to give you a Tshibaka family update. Things here are going well (finally)! It started out as a rough year—we sold our home and had to move four times in six months before we were finally in our new home (we bought the home in April 2012, but construction delays left us in-between homes). We did all this with Justice as a newborn. We're all glad that season is over.

Kelly took a new job this year as General Counsel for the Federal Trade Commission's Office of the Inspector General. This new job is a fantastic fit for her and works great for this season of our family's life. She has a lot of flexibility and can telecommute from home. In the meantime, she's enjoying having more time during the week to be with our two youngest kids (Jofish and Baby Bear), and pursue ministry endeavors like writing and speaking.

Things with our church are going very well, too! Niki went to Ethiopia this year on a missions trip and is heading out on a missions trip to Ghana the first week of January. He's going to work with the leaders of our denomination in Ghana to help them with some of the organizational and leadership challenges they are facing, and he also is scheduled to meet with the President and Vice President of Ghana. He is praying and hoping for an opportunity to minister to them in a meaningful way.

Our daughter, Burton (9), is becoming more and more like her mom — full of life, personality, and strong conviction (you should hear her talk about her frustrations with political decisions being made and her ambition to become a politician). Our son, Siah (7), is growing into a man of great compassion and great intellect. Both of them challenge Kelly and I in so many wonderful ways, especially with their faith in God. Both of them have recently led the family in taking communion after dinner. It was beautiful!

Jofish (4) is healthy and strong (we were very concerned about his health when we brought him home from Ethiopia — he was 10 pounds at 6 months), and is a wonderful big brother to Baby Bear (14 months). As challenging as parenthood can be, we are really enjoying the kids and watching them develop into the unique individuals God has created them to be.

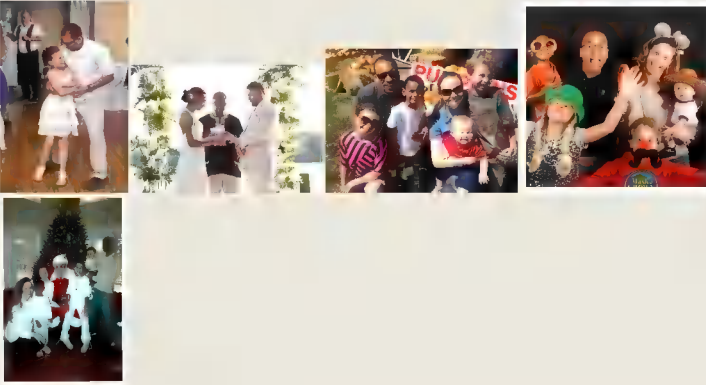
Also, we're expecting Tshibaka Version 5.0 in February! It's a little girl (for which Denali is very thankful). It was a totally unexpected pregnancy, but we're thankful for the gift that we know she is.

We've attached a few pictures of the family, including a couple from Niki's sister's recent wedding — she had a small wedding this past July, which Niki had the pleasure of officiating. She'll have her "big wedding" next year in Oklahoma where she now lives with her husband.

Anyway, we just wanted to drop you an email to wish you a wonderful and Merry Christmas!

With love and gratitude for you,

Niki, Kelly, & the kids



#### Share this:

- [Facebook](#)
- [Twitter](#)
- [LinkedIn](#)
- [Pinterest](#)
- [More](#)
- [Print](#)

#### Like this:


Like Loading...

#### Related

#### Post navigation

[← Previous post](#) [Next post →](#)

#### 3 thoughts on “Christmas Letter from the Tshibakas”

1.  Peg Travis said:

[December 24, 2013 at 6:51 pm](#)

OH, Kelly, remember those days of the back yard bbq at Sharon and Jim's?  
What fun and what great memories.  
We so enjoying hearing about you, Nick and beautiful family. Please do keep us posted.  
Congrats on your new job and all the great work you and Nick are doing with the church.  
May God bless you and we love you all.  
Merry Christmas,  
Peg Travis and Dave Hichert

[Reply](#)

2.  Susan Anton said:

[December 24, 2013 at 4:31 pm](#)

I love you guys! Merry Christmas!

>

[Reply](#)

3.  Anonymous said:

[December 24, 2013 at 1:16 pm](#)

Merry Christmas from the Lawsons!!

[Reply](#)

#### Leave a Reply



(Address never made public)

☐ Notify me of follow-up comments via email.

☐ Notify me of new posts via email.

Post Comment

Search:

#### Follow Blog

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 921 other followers

#### Recent Posts

- [I Gave All My Allowance, What's Your Excuse?](#)
- [Should Women Change Their Names When They Get Married?](#)
- [The Kind of Encouragement that Makes My Heart Soar](#)
- [How People Can Lose Their Faith](#)
- [Thoughts on Praying to Mary](#)

#### Archives

- [January 2014](#)
- [December 2013](#)
- [November 2013](#)
- [October 2013](#)
- [September 2013](#)
- [August 2013](#)
- [June 2013](#)
- [May 2013](#)
- [April 2013](#)
- [March 2013](#)
- [February 2013](#)
- [January 2013](#)
- [December 2012](#)
- [November 2012](#)
- [October 2012](#)
- [September 2012](#)
- [August 2012](#)
- [July 2012](#)
- [June 2012](#)
- [May 2012](#)
- [April 2012](#)
- [March 2012](#)
- [January 2012](#)
- [December 2011](#)
- [November 2011](#)
- [October 2011](#)
- [September 2011](#)
- [August 2011](#)
- [July 2011](#)
- [April 2011](#)
- [March 2011](#)
- [February 2011](#)
- [January 2011](#)
- [December 2010](#)
- [November 2010](#)
- [October 2010](#)
- [September 2010](#)
- [August 2010](#)
- [July 2010](#)
- [June 2010](#)
- [May 2010](#)
- [April 2010](#)
- [March 2010](#)
- [February 2010](#)
- [January 2010](#)
- [December 2009](#)
- [November 2009](#)
- [October 2009](#)
- [September 2009](#)
- [August 2009](#)
- [July 2009](#)
- [June 2009](#)
- [May 2009](#)
- [March 2009](#)
- [February 2009](#)
- [January 2009](#)
- [December 2008](#)
- [November 2008](#)
- [October 2008](#)
- [September 2008](#)
- [August 2008](#)
- [July 2008](#)
- [June 2008](#)
- [May 2008](#)
- [April 2008](#)
- [March 2008](#)
- [February 2008](#)
- [January 2008](#)
- [December 2007](#)
- [November 2007](#)
- [October 2007](#)
- [September 2007](#)
- [August 2007](#)
- [July 2007](#)
- [June 2007](#)
- [May 2007](#)
- [April 2007](#)
- [March 2007](#)
- [February 2007](#)
- [January 2007](#)

#### Categories

Select Category

[Blog at WordPress.com. The Chateau Theme.](#)

[Follow](#)

#### Follow “Kelly Tshibaka”

Get every new post delivered to your Inbox.

Join 921 other followers

Powered by [WordPress.com](#)

%d bloggers like this:

- [About](#)
- [Resources](#)
- [Speaking](#)

## Kelly Tshibaka

### ~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional



## How People Can Lose Their Faith

04 [Saturday Jan 2014](#)

Posted by [kushibaka](#) in [Uncategorized](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

People shipwreck their faith when they refuse to change their view of who God is or how He operates.

#### Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

#### Like this:

Like Loading...

#### Related

#### Post navigation

[← Previous post](#) [Next post →](#)

#### Leave a Reply

 Email (Address never shown)

☐ Notify me of follow-up comments via email.

☐ Notify me of new posts via email.

Search:

#### Follow Blog

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 921 other followers

#### Recent Posts

- [I Gave All My Allowance. What's Your Excuse?](#)
- [Should Women Change Their Names When They Get Married?](#)
- [The Kind of Encouragement that Makes My Heart Sear](#)
- [How People Can Lose Their Faith](#)
- [Thoughts on Praying to Mary](#)

#### Archives

- [January 2014](#)
- [December 2013](#)
- [November 2013](#)
- [October 2013](#)
- [September 2013](#)
- [August 2013](#)
- [June 2013](#)
- [May 2013](#)
- [April 2013](#)
- [March 2013](#)
- [February 2013](#)
- [January 2013](#)
- [December 2012](#)
- [November 2012](#)
- [October 2012](#)
- [September 2012](#)
- [August 2012](#)
- [July 2012](#)
- [June 2012](#)
- [May 2012](#)
- [April 2012](#)
- [March 2012](#)
- [January 2012](#)
- [December 2011](#)
- [November 2011](#)
- [October 2011](#)
- [September 2011](#)
- [August 2011](#)
- [July 2011](#)
- [April 2011](#)
- [March 2011](#)
- [February 2011](#)
- [January 2011](#)
- [December 2010](#)
- [November 2010](#)
- [October 2010](#)
- [September 2010](#)
- [August 2010](#)
- [July 2010](#)
- [June 2010](#)
- [May 2010](#)
- [April 2010](#)
- [March 2010](#)
- [February 2010](#)
- [January 2010](#)
- [December 2009](#)
- [November 2009](#)
- [October 2009](#)
- [September 2009](#)
- [August 2009](#)
- [July 2009](#)
- [June 2009](#)
- [May 2009](#)
- [March 2009](#)
- [February 2009](#)
- [January 2009](#)
- [December 2008](#)
- [November 2008](#)
- [October 2008](#)
- [September 2008](#)
- [August 2008](#)
- [July 2008](#)
- [June 2008](#)
- [May 2008](#)
- [April 2008](#)
- [March 2008](#)
- [February 2008](#)
- [January 2008](#)
- [December 2007](#)
- [November 2007](#)
- [October 2007](#)
- [September 2007](#)
- [August 2007](#)
- [July 2007](#)
- [June 2007](#)
- [May 2007](#)
- [April 2007](#)
- [March 2007](#)
- [February 2007](#)
- [January 2007](#)

#### Categories

Select Category ▾

[Blog at WordPress.com](#). [The Chateau Theme](#).

[Follow](#)

#### Follow “Kelly Tshibaka”

Get every new post delivered to your Inbox.

Join 921 other followers

Powered by [WordPress.com](#)

%d bloggers like this:



- [About](#)
- [Resources](#)
- [Speaking](#)

## Kelly Tshibaka

### ~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional

Search:



## Should Women Change Their Names When They Get Married?

08 Wednesday Jan 2014

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [deep thoughts](#), [marriage](#), [women's topics](#)

≈ [1 Comment](#)

#### Tags

[Pioneering](#), [Professional](#)

I've been branded a liberal feminist, a neanderthal conservative, and everything in between. But from my perspective, I just aim to line up everything I do or think with the Word of God. Sometimes that makes me "liberal" by today's standards. Sometimes it makes me "pro-women's rights." And other times it makes me, well, old school. Call it what you will—

Any case, here's my liberally feminist neanderthally conservative Christian view of whether women should change their last names when they get married.

First, let's acknowledge that changing your last name is hard. Really hard. It's wise to recognize that there will be a grieving process involved if you change your name. Whenever we lose something, it triggers grief responses in us — even if we're gaining something better in the process (e.g., grieving after the birth of your first child because you've "lost" the freedom that comes with not having children). Recognizing that grief reaction and allowing yourself to work through it is really healthy.

There are a lot of practical considerations involved in changing your name, but I think they are far outweighed by the principled decisions. In our culture, women's last names denote which family/tribe they're associated with. For example, as a Lee, you are associated with/cared for by a Lee man (in this case, usually the woman's father). But when you become a Smith, you are associated with/cared for by a Smith man (your spouse).

It's a hard thing to leave one family and join another — to leave your childhood family and start a new family with your spouse. And that's ok. It might help to realize you already made this choice when you chose to get married. Changing your name simply reiterates the choice you already made.

And I think that's biblical (not the name change so much, but the declaration of your allegiance). Like Ruth, be sold out in your marriage. Pick your husband over everyone else — dad, mom, brother, sister, even your kids. Your relationship with him is the only covenant relationship you have in this world. So changing your name to show your oneness with him is a huge statement of principle, and it's wise.

I say share names, bank accounts, vacations, a bed, etc. — as much as you can, really. The more you're unified in the practical things, the more you'll be unified in heart and spirit.

#### Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

#### Like this:


Like Loading...

#### Related

### Post navigation

[← Previous post](#) [Next post →](#)

### 1 thought on “Should Women Change Their Names When They Get Married?”

-  [Tim Moasholder](#) said:

[January 8, 2014 at 5:47 pm](#)

Kelly...as a liberal-conservative guy, I appreciate your words on this. It is a challenging conversation, and one well served by a woman's insightful and honest perspective. Thanks for always being willing to dive into the deep end of the pool, and for your commitment to keep God's heart front and center.

[Reply](#)

### Leave a Reply

Email

Name

Website

☐ Notify me of follow-up comments via email.  
☐ Notify me of new posts via email.

Search:

### Follow Blog

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 921 other followers

### Recent Posts

- [I Gave All My Allowance. What's Your Excuse?](#)
- [Should Women Change Their Names When They Get Married?](#)
- [The Kind of Encouragement that Makes My Heart Soar](#)
- [How People Can Lose Their Faith](#)
- [Thoughts on Praying to Mary](#)

### Archives

- [January 2014](#)
- [December 2013](#)
- [November 2013](#)
- [October 2013](#)
- [September 2013](#)
- [August 2013](#)
- [June 2013](#)
- [May 2013](#)
- [April 2013](#)
- [March 2013](#)
- [February 2013](#)
- [January 2013](#)
- [December 2012](#)
- [November 2012](#)
- [October 2012](#)
- [September 2012](#)
- [August 2012](#)
- [July 2012](#)
- [June 2012](#)
- [May 2012](#)
- [April 2012](#)
- [March 2012](#)
- [January 2012](#)
- [December 2011](#)
- [November 2011](#)
- [October 2011](#)
- [September 2011](#)
- [August 2011](#)
- [July 2011](#)
- [April 2011](#)
- [March 2011](#)
- [February 2011](#)
- [January 2011](#)
- [December 2010](#)
- [November 2010](#)
- [October 2010](#)
- [September 2010](#)
- [August 2010](#)
- [July 2010](#)
- [June 2010](#)
- [May 2010](#)
- [April 2010](#)
- [March 2010](#)
- [February 2010](#)
- [January 2010](#)
- [December 2009](#)
- [November 2009](#)
- [October 2009](#)
- [September 2009](#)
- [August 2009](#)
- [July 2009](#)
- [June 2009](#)
- [May 2009](#)
- [March 2009](#)
- [February 2009](#)
- [January 2009](#)
- [December 2008](#)
- [November 2008](#)
- [October 2008](#)
- [September 2008](#)
- [August 2008](#)
- [July 2008](#)
- [June 2008](#)
- [May 2008](#)
- [April 2008](#)
- [March 2008](#)
- [February 2008](#)
- [January 2008](#)
- [December 2007](#)
- [November 2007](#)
- [October 2007](#)
- [September 2007](#)
- [August 2007](#)
- [July 2007](#)
- [June 2007](#)
- [May 2007](#)
- [April 2007](#)
- [March 2007](#)
- [February 2007](#)
- [January 2007](#)

### Categories

Select Category

[Blog at WordPress.com.](#) [The Chateau Theme.](#)

[Follow](#)

### Follow “Kelly Tshibaka”

Get every new post delivered to your Inbox.

Join 921 other followers

Powered by [WordPress.com](#)

%d bloggers like this:

- [About](#)
- [Resources](#)
- [Speaking](#)

## [Kelly Tshibaka](#)

### ~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional

Search:



## The Kind of Encouragement that Makes My Heart Soar

06 Monday Jan 2014

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [Notes for Pastor's Wife](#)

≈ [1 Comment](#)

#### Tags

[Pastoring](#)

From someone in our church:

*I wanted to share something that might encourage you both. I was reading Hebrews 13 this morning and when I came across Verse 7, I thought of you both. It says to remember your leaders since they taught the Word of God to you, to consider the outcome of their way of life, and to imitate their faith. I'm so proud to be able to look at the outcome of your way of life and to be able to imitate your faith and ways of doing things. I really think that verse is written about leaders like you both.*

Love that. Thank you, Lord, for encouraging us through the people we love and serve.

#### Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

#### Like this:

Like Loading...

#### Related

### Post navigation

[← Previous post](#) [Next post →](#)

### 1 thought on “The Kind of Encouragement that Makes My Heart Soar”

-  [Isaac Hoyet](#) said:

[January 6, 2014 at 1:50 pm](#)

Precisely the kind of encouragement we should long for. Great work!

[Reply](#)

#### Leave a Reply

Email

Name

Website

Notify me of follow-up comments via email.

Notify me of new posts via email.

Post Comment

Search:

### Follow Blog

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 921 other followers

Follow

### Recent Posts

- [I Gave All My Allowance, What's Your Excuse?](#)
- [Should Women Change Their Names When They Get Married?](#)
- [The Kind of Encouragement that Makes My Heart Soar](#)
- [How People Can Lose Their Faith](#)
- [Thoughts on Praying to Mary](#)

### Archives

- [January 2014](#)
- [December 2013](#)
- [November 2013](#)
- [October 2013](#)
- [September 2013](#)
- [August 2013](#)
- [June 2013](#)
- [May 2013](#)
- [April 2013](#)
- [March 2013](#)
- [February 2013](#)
- [January 2013](#)
- [December 2012](#)
- [November 2012](#)
- [October 2012](#)
- [September 2012](#)
- [August 2012](#)
- [July 2012](#)
- [June 2012](#)
- [May 2012](#)
- [April 2012](#)
- [March 2012](#)
- [January 2012](#)
- [December 2011](#)
- [November 2011](#)
- [October 2011](#)
- [September 2011](#)
- [August 2011](#)
- [July 2011](#)
- [April 2011](#)
- [March 2011](#)
- [February 2011](#)
- [January 2011](#)
- [December 2010](#)
- [November 2010](#)
- [October 2010](#)
- [September 2010](#)
- [August 2010](#)
- [July 2010](#)
- [June 2010](#)
- [May 2010](#)
- [April 2010](#)
- [March 2010](#)
- [February 2010](#)
- [January 2010](#)
- [December 2009](#)
- [November 2009](#)
- [October 2009](#)
- [September 2009](#)
- [August 2009](#)
- [July 2009](#)
- [June 2009](#)
- [May 2009](#)
- [March 2009](#)
- [February 2009](#)
- [January 2009](#)
- [December 2008](#)
- [November 2008](#)
- [October 2008](#)
- [September 2008](#)
- [August 2008](#)
- [July 2008](#)
- [June 2008](#)
- [May 2008](#)
- [April 2008](#)
- [March 2008](#)
- [February 2008](#)
- [January 2008](#)
- [December 2007](#)
- [November 2007](#)
- [October 2007](#)
- [September 2007](#)
- [August 2007](#)
- [July 2007](#)
- [June 2007](#)
- [May 2007](#)
- [April 2007](#)
- [March 2007](#)
- [February 2007](#)
- [January 2007](#)

### Categories

Select Category ▼

[Blog at WordPress.com. The Chateau Theme.](#)

[Follow](#)

### Follow “Kelly Tshibaka”

Get every new post delivered to your Inbox.

Join 921 other followers

Enter your email address

Sign me up

Powered by [WordPress.com](#)

%d bloggers like this:

- [About](#)
- [Resources](#)
- [Speaking](#)

## Kelly Tshibaka

### ~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional

Search:



### What Button Liked the Most about an Epic Novel

[21 Saturday Dec 2013](#)

Posted by [kushibaka](#) in [kid stories](#)

≈ [1 Comment](#)

Tags

[Parenting](#)

Button finished a several hundred page epic novel this morning.

“What did you like most about the book,” I asked.

“Well, first of all, I read so closely at the end that I found a typo!”

“Your favorite part was finding a typo?”

“YEP!!”

(Soooo my daughter)

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

Like this:

Like Loading...

#### Related

#### Post navigation

[← Previous post](#) [Next post →](#)

#### 1 thought on “What Button Liked the Most about an Epic Novel”

1.  The Mad-Hatted Regent said:

[December 21, 2013 at 10:01 am](#)

LOL! What was the typo?!? And what was the book? So cute!

Ian Alan Elliott

Sent from my awesome iPhone 5!

[Reply](#)

Leave a Reply

Enter your comment here...

Search:

#### Follow Blog

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 921 other followers

#### Recent Posts

- [I Gave All My Allowance, What's Your Excuse?](#)
- [Should Women Change Their Names When They Get Married?](#)
- [The Kind of Encouragement that Makes My Heart Soar](#)
- [How People Can Lose Their Faith](#)
- [Thoughts on Praying to Mary](#)

#### Archives

- [January 2014](#)
- [December 2013](#)
- [November 2013](#)
- [October 2013](#)
- [September 2013](#)
- [August 2013](#)
- [June 2013](#)
- [May 2013](#)
- [April 2013](#)
- [March 2013](#)
- [February 2013](#)
- [January 2013](#)
- [December 2012](#)
- [November 2012](#)
- [October 2012](#)
- [September 2012](#)
- [August 2012](#)
- [July 2012](#)
- [June 2012](#)
- [May 2012](#)
- [April 2012](#)
- [March 2012](#)
- [January 2012](#)
- [December 2011](#)
- [November 2011](#)
- [October 2011](#)
- [September 2011](#)
- [August 2011](#)
- [July 2011](#)
- [April 2011](#)
- [March 2011](#)
- [February 2011](#)
- [January 2011](#)
- [December 2010](#)
- [November 2010](#)
- [October 2010](#)
- [September 2010](#)
- [August 2010](#)
- [July 2010](#)
- [June 2010](#)
- [May 2010](#)
- [April 2010](#)
- [March 2010](#)
- [February 2010](#)
- [January 2010](#)
- [December 2009](#)
- [November 2009](#)
- [October 2009](#)
- [September 2009](#)
- [August 2009](#)
- [July 2009](#)
- [June 2009](#)
- [May 2009](#)
- [March 2009](#)
- [February 2009](#)
- [January 2009](#)
- [December 2008](#)
- [November 2008](#)
- [October 2008](#)
- [September 2008](#)
- [August 2008](#)
- [July 2008](#)
- [June 2008](#)
- [May 2008](#)
- [April 2008](#)
- [March 2008](#)
- [February 2008](#)
- [January 2008](#)
- [December 2007](#)
- [November 2007](#)
- [October 2007](#)
- [September 2007](#)
- [August 2007](#)
- [July 2007](#)
- [June 2007](#)
- [May 2007](#)
- [April 2007](#)
- [March 2007](#)
- [February 2007](#)
- [January 2007](#)

#### Categories

Select Category

[Blog at WordPress.com. The Chateau Theme.](#)

[Follow](#)

#### Follow “Kelly Tshibaka”

Get every new post delivered to your Inbox.

Join 921 other followers

Powered by [WordPress.com](#)

%d bloggers like this:

- [About](#)
- [Resources](#)
- [Speaking](#)

## Kelly Tshibaka

### ~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional

Search:



### Thoughts on Praying to Mary

*02 Thursday Jan 2014*

Posted by [kushibaka](#) in [Uncategorized](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

In Luke 11, Jesus addresses the issue of praying to/revering Mary. “Blessed is the woman who bore you!” a person from the crowd cries out. This statement comes in a chapter in which Jesus teaches us how to pray. And it illustrates how people’s inclination to pray to Mary has existed from the beginning.

But Jesus responds without skipping a beat. Mary isn’t the blessed one, He says. It’s the people who hear the word of God and observe it. Those people are called “disciples.” (Jesus’ declaration at the end of his time on earth was to go make disciples...teaching them to *observe* all that He *commanded* us). So Mary isn’t the blessed one; it’s all the disciples made through time.

Jesus answers the question for us: Don’t pray to Mary. Instead, hear the word and observe it.

#### Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)

#### Like this:

Like Loading...

#### Related

#### Post navigation

[← Previous post](#) [Next post →](#)

#### Leave a Reply

Email

Name

Website

Notify me of follow-up comments via email.

Notify me of new posts via email.

Post Comment

Search:

#### Follow Blog

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 921 other followers

Follow

#### Recent Posts

- [I Gave All My Allowance. What’s Your Excuse?](#)
- [Should Women Change Their Names When They Get Married?](#)
- [The Kind of Encouragement that Makes My Heart Soar](#)
- [How People Can Lose Their Faith](#)
- [Thoughts on Praying to Mary](#)

#### Archives

- [January 2014](#)
- [December 2013](#)
- [November 2013](#)
- [October 2013](#)
- [September 2013](#)
- [August 2013](#)
- [June 2013](#)
- [May 2013](#)
- [April 2013](#)
- [March 2013](#)
- [February 2013](#)
- [January 2013](#)
- [December 2012](#)
- [November 2012](#)
- [October 2012](#)
- [September 2012](#)
- [August 2012](#)
- [July 2012](#)
- [June 2012](#)
- [May 2012](#)
- [April 2012](#)
- [March 2012](#)
- [January 2012](#)
- [December 2011](#)
- [November 2011](#)
- [October 2011](#)
- [September 2011](#)
- [August 2011](#)
- [July 2011](#)
- [April 2011](#)
- [March 2011](#)
- [February 2011](#)
- [January 2011](#)
- [December 2010](#)
- [November 2010](#)
- [October 2010](#)
- [September 2010](#)
- [August 2010](#)
- [July 2010](#)
- [June 2010](#)
- [May 2010](#)
- [April 2010](#)
- [March 2010](#)
- [February 2010](#)
- [January 2010](#)
- [December 2009](#)
- [November 2009](#)
- [October 2009](#)
- [September 2009](#)
- [August 2009](#)
- [July 2009](#)
- [June 2009](#)
- [May 2009](#)
- [March 2009](#)
- [February 2009](#)
- [January 2009](#)
- [December 2008](#)
- [November 2008](#)
- [October 2008](#)
- [September 2008](#)
- [August 2008](#)
- [July 2008](#)
- [June 2008](#)
- [May 2008](#)
- [April 2008](#)
- [March 2008](#)
- [February 2008](#)
- [January 2008](#)
- [December 2007](#)
- [November 2007](#)
- [October 2007](#)
- [September 2007](#)
- [August 2007](#)
- [July 2007](#)
- [June 2007](#)
- [May 2007](#)
- [April 2007](#)
- [March 2007](#)
- [February 2007](#)
- [January 2007](#)

#### Categories

Select Category ▼

[Blog at WordPress.com](#). [The Chateau Theme](#).

[Follow](#)

#### Follow “Kelly Tshibaka”

Get every new post delivered to your Inbox.

Join 921 other followers

Enter your email address

Sign me up

Powered by [WordPress.com](#)

%d bloggers like this:



- Kelly Tshibaka**

~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional

## I Gave All My Allowance. What's Your Excuse?

11.Saturday Jan.2014

Posted by [kushibaka](#) in [kid stories](#), [spiritual truths](#)

[Leave a Comment](#)

## Tags

## Parenting pastoring

“Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you.” Luke 6:38

Button gives like Jesus wants all of us, too. She constantly challenges me and Niki. She even makes it look easy!

Recently she heard an appeal for donations for clean water for a tribe in Africa. She emptied out all her savings (\$22) and pledged \$2/month for a year to help with the effort. Then she initiated her own telethon campaign where she called relatives and implored them to give, too. (It worked!)

For her, giving is a no brainer.

This face says it all:



**Share this:**

- [More](#)

**Like this:**

## Like Loading..

### Related

## Post navigation

[← Previous post](#)

Leave a Reply

Email

(Address never shown)

Name

Website

☐ Notify me of follow-up comments via email.

☐ Notify me of new posts via email.

Post Comment

Search:

Search:

## Follow Blog

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 921 other followers

Follow

## Recent Posts

- [I Gave All My Allowance. What's Your Excuse?](#)
- [Should Women Change Their Names When They Get Married?](#)
- [The Kind of Encouragement that Makes My Heart Soar](#)
- [How People Can Lose Their Faith](#)
- [Thoughts on Praying to Mary](#)

## Archives

- January 2014
- December 2013
- November 2013
- October 2013
- September 2013
- August 2013
- June 2013
- May 2013
- April 2013
- March 2013
- February 2013
- January 2013
- December 2012
- November 2012
- October 2012
- September 2012
- August 2012
- July 2012
- June 2012
- May 2012
- April 2012
- March 2012
- January 2012
- December 2011
- November 2011
- October 2011
- September 2011
- August 2011
- July 2011
- April 2011
- March 2011
- February 2011
- January 2011
- December 2010
- November 2010
- October 2010
- September 2010
- August 2010
- July 2010
- June 2010
- May 2010
- April 2010
- March 2010
- February 2010
- January 2010
- December 2009
- November 2009
- October 2009
- September 2009
- August 2009
- July 2009
- June 2009
- May 2009
- March 2009
- February 2009
- January 2009
- December 2008
- November 2008
- October 2008
- September 2008
- August 2008
- July 2008
- June 2008
- May 2008
- April 2008
- March 2008
- February 2008
- January 2008
- December 2007
- November 2007
- October 2007
- September 2007
- August 2007
- July 2007
- June 2007
- May 2007
- April 2007
- March 2007
- February 2007
- January 2007

## Categories

Select Category

[Blog at WordPress.com.](#) [The Chateau Theme.](#)

[Follow](#)

Follow "Kelly Tshibaka"

Get every new post delivered to your Inbox.

Join 921 other followers

[Sign me up](#)

Powered by [WordPress.com](#)

%d bloggers like this:

- [About](#)
- [Resources](#)
- [Speaking](#)

## [Kelly Tshibaka](#)

~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional



**01** [Saturday Feb 2014](#)

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [Uncategorized](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

"I don't want to know about God; I want to know God."

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

Like this:

Like Loading...

*Related*

### Post navigation

[← Previous post](#)

Leave a Reply

(Address never made public)

☐ Notify me of follow-up comments via email.

☐ Notify me of new posts via email.

Search:

### Follow Blog

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 919 other followers

### Recent Posts

- [1479](#)
- [I Gave All My Allowance, What's Your Excuse?](#)
- [Should Women Change Their Names When They Get Married?](#)
- [The Kind of Encouragement that Makes My Heart Soar](#)
- [How People Can Lose Their Faith](#)

### Archives

- [February 2014](#)
- [January 2014](#)
- [December 2013](#)
- [November 2013](#)
- [October 2013](#)
- [September 2013](#)
- [August 2013](#)
- [June 2013](#)
- [May 2013](#)
- [April 2013](#)
- [March 2013](#)
- [February 2013](#)
- [January 2013](#)
- [December 2012](#)
- [November 2012](#)
- [October 2012](#)
- [September 2012](#)
- [August 2012](#)
- [July 2012](#)
- [June 2012](#)
- [May 2012](#)
- [April 2012](#)
- [March 2012](#)
- [January 2012](#)
- [December 2011](#)
- [November 2011](#)
- [October 2011](#)
- [September 2011](#)
- [August 2011](#)
- [July 2011](#)
- [April 2011](#)
- [March 2011](#)
- [February 2011](#)
- [January 2011](#)
- [December 2010](#)
- [November 2010](#)
- [October 2010](#)
- [September 2010](#)
- [August 2010](#)
- [July 2010](#)
- [June 2010](#)
- [May 2010](#)
- [April 2010](#)
- [March 2010](#)
- [February 2010](#)
- [January 2010](#)
- [December 2009](#)
- [November 2009](#)
- [October 2009](#)
- [September 2009](#)
- [August 2009](#)
- [July 2009](#)
- [June 2009](#)
- [May 2009](#)
- [March 2009](#)
- [February 2009](#)
- [January 2009](#)
- [December 2008](#)
- [November 2008](#)
- [October 2008](#)
- [September 2008](#)
- [August 2008](#)
- [July 2008](#)
- [June 2008](#)
- [May 2008](#)
- [April 2008](#)
- [March 2008](#)
- [February 2008](#)
- [January 2008](#)
- [December 2007](#)
- [November 2007](#)
- [October 2007](#)
- [September 2007](#)
- [August 2007](#)
- [July 2007](#)
- [June 2007](#)
- [May 2007](#)
- [April 2007](#)
- [March 2007](#)
- [February 2007](#)
- [January 2007](#)

### Categories

Select Category ▾

[Blog at WordPress.com. The Chateau Theme.](#)

[Follow](#)

Follow “Kelly Tshibaka”

Get every new post delivered to your Inbox.

Join 919 other followers

Enter your email address

[Powered by WordPress.com](#)

%d bloggers like this:

This XML file does not appear to have any style information associated with it. The document tree is shown below.

```
▼<rss xmlns:content="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/content/" xmlns:dc="http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/" xmlns:atom="http://www.w3.org/2005/Atom"
xmlns:sy="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/syndication/" xmlns:georss="http://www.georss.org/georss" xmlns:geo="http://www.w3.org/2003/01/geo/wgs84_pos#"
xmlns:media="http://search.yahoo.com/mrss/" version="2.0">
▼<channel>
  <title>Comments on: Best Recipes for a Busy Woman</title>
  <atom:link href="http://kellytshibaka.com/2013/12/17/best-recipes-for-a-busy-woman/feed/" rel="self" type="application/rss+xml"/>
▼<link>
  http://kellytshibaka.com/2013/12/17/best-recipes-for-a-busy-woman/
</link>
▼<description>
  Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional
</description>
<lastBuildDate>Wed, 08 Jan 2014 22:47:28 +0000</lastBuildDate>
<sy:updatePeriod>hourly</sy:updatePeriod>
<sy:updateFrequency>1</sy:updateFrequency>
<generator>http://wordpress.com/</generator>
</channel>
</rss>
```

0 11 1.1 10



# Kelly Tshibaka ~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional

Search...

Go



03  
Monday  
Feb 2014

POSTED BY KATHIBAKA W. UNKATEGORIZED

LEAVE A COMMENT

Search... Go

"You don't have to have a big foot to leave a huge footprint."

SHARE THIS: [Twitter](#) [Facebook](#) [Email](#) [LinkedIn](#) [Print](#)

LEAVE THIS: [Link](#) [Copy](#)

Previous post

LEAVE A REPLY

Enter your comment here

1

#### FOLLOW BLOG

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 920 other followers

Follow

#### RECENT POSTS

- 3483
- Button and Her Pre-Teen Attitude
- 3479
- I Gave All My Allowance. What's Your Excuse?
- Should Women Change Their Names When They Get Married?

#### ARCHIVES

- February 2014
- January 2014
- December 2013
- November 2013
- October 2013
- September 2013
- August 2013
- June 2013
- May 2013
- April 2013
- March 2013
- February 2013
- January 2013
- December 2012
- November 2012
- October 2012
- September 2012
- August 2012
- July 2012
- June 2012
- May 2012
- April 2012
- March 2012
- January 2012
- December 2011
- November 2011
- October 2011
- September 2011
- August 2011
- July 2011
- April 2011
- March 2011
- February 2011
- January 2011
- December 2010
- November 2010
- October 2010
- September 2010
- August 2010
- July 2010
- June 2010
- May 2010
- April 2010
- March 2010
- February 2010
- January 2010
- December 2009
- November 2009
- October 2009
- September 2009
- August 2009
- July 2009
- June 2009
- May 2009
- March 2009
- February 2009
- January 2009
- December 2008
- November 2008
- October 2008
- September 2008
- August 2008
- July 2008
- June 2008
- May 2008
- April 2008
- March 2008
- February 2008
- January 2008
- December 2007
- November 2007
- October 2007
- September 2007
- August 2007
- July 2007
- June 2007
- May 2007
- April 2007
- March 2007
- February 2007
- January 2007

#### CATEGORIES

Select Category

- [About](#)
- [Resources](#)
- [Speaking](#)

## Kelly Tshibaka

~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional

Search:



04 Tuesday, Feb 2014

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [Uncategorized](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

You work for Jesus? When was your last staff meeting?

Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

Like this:

Like Loading...

*Related*

### Post navigation

[← Previous post](#)

Leave a Reply

Enter your comment here...

Search:

### Follow Blog

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 918 other followers

### Recent Posts

- [1485](#)
- [1483](#)
- [Button and Her Pre-Teen Attitude](#)
- [1479](#)
- [I Gave All My Allowance. What's Your Excuse?](#)

### Archives

- [February 2014](#)
- [January 2014](#)
- [December 2013](#)
- [November 2013](#)
- [October 2013](#)
- [September 2013](#)
- [August 2013](#)
- [June 2013](#)
- [May 2013](#)
- [April 2013](#)
- [March 2013](#)
- [February 2013](#)
- [January 2013](#)
- [December 2012](#)
- [November 2012](#)
- [October 2012](#)
- [September 2012](#)
- [August 2012](#)
- [July 2012](#)
- [June 2012](#)
- [May 2012](#)
- [April 2012](#)
- [March 2012](#)
- [January 2012](#)
- [December 2011](#)
- [November 2011](#)
- [October 2011](#)
- [September 2011](#)
- [August 2011](#)
- [July 2011](#)
- [April 2011](#)
- [March 2011](#)
- [February 2011](#)
- [January 2011](#)
- [December 2010](#)
- [November 2010](#)
- [October 2010](#)
- [September 2010](#)
- [August 2010](#)
- [July 2010](#)
- [June 2010](#)
- [May 2010](#)
- [April 2010](#)
- [March 2010](#)
- [February 2010](#)
- [January 2010](#)
- [December 2009](#)
- [November 2009](#)
- [October 2009](#)
- [September 2009](#)
- [August 2009](#)
- [July 2009](#)
- [June 2009](#)
- [May 2009](#)
- [March 2009](#)
- [February 2009](#)
- [January 2009](#)
- [December 2008](#)
- [November 2008](#)
- [October 2008](#)
- [September 2008](#)
- [August 2008](#)
- [July 2008](#)
- [June 2008](#)
- [May 2008](#)
- [April 2008](#)
- [March 2008](#)
- [February 2008](#)
- [January 2008](#)
- [December 2007](#)
- [November 2007](#)
- [October 2007](#)
- [September 2007](#)
- [August 2007](#)
- [July 2007](#)
- [June 2007](#)
- [May 2007](#)
- [April 2007](#)
- [March 2007](#)
- [February 2007](#)
- [January 2007](#)

### Categories

Select Category ▾

[Blog at WordPress.com. The Chateau Theme.](#)

[Follow](#)

Follow “Kelly Tshibaka”

Get every new post delivered to your Inbox.

Join 918 other followers

Enter your email address

Powered by [WordPress.com](#)

%d bloggers like this:

# Kelly Tshibaka ~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional

Search...

Go



05  
Wednesday  
Feb 2014

## Flooding the Bathroom

POSTED BY KATSHIBAKA IN RAISED KIDS

LEAVE A COMMENT

JoFish filled the tub to the brim and jumped in, flooding the bathroom. Why, You ask? Because when filled to the brim, it looks like a swimming pool...

Tags  
Parenting

Share this:



Like this:

0 people like this.

[← Previous post](#)

LEAVE A REPLY

Enter your comment here...

Search...

Go

FOLLOW BLOG

Enter your email address to follow the blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 928 other followers

Follow

RECENT POSTS

- Flooding the Bathroom
- 1485
- 1483
- Bison and Her Pre-Teen Attitude
- 1479

ARCHIVES

- February 2014
- January 2014
- December 2013
- November 2013
- October 2013
- September 2013
- August 2013
- June 2013
- May 2013
- April 2013
- March 2013
- February 2013
- January 2013
- December 2012
- November 2012
- October 2012
- September 2012
- August 2012
- July 2012
- June 2012
- May 2012
- April 2012
- March 2012
- January 2012
- December 2011
- November 2011
- October 2011
- September 2011
- August 2011
- July 2011
- April 2011
- March 2011
- February 2011
- January 2011
- December 2010
- November 2010
- October 2010
- September 2010
- August 2010
- July 2010
- June 2010
- May 2010
- April 2010
- March 2010
- February 2010
- January 2010
- December 2009
- November 2009
- October 2009
- September 2009
- August 2009
- July 2009
- June 2009
- May 2009
- March 2009
- February 2009
- January 2009
- December 2008
- November 2008
- October 2008
- September 2008
- August 2008
- July 2008
- June 2008
- May 2008
- April 2008
- March 2008
- February 2008
- January 2008
- December 2007
- November 2007
- October 2007
- September 2007
- August 2007
- July 2007
- June 2007
- May 2007
- April 2007
- March 2007
- February 2007
- January 2007

CATEGORIES

Select Category

%d bloggers like this:



- [About](#)
- [Resources](#)
- [Speaking](#)

## Kelly Tshibaka

~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional

Search:



### Button's Valentine's Day Card to Us

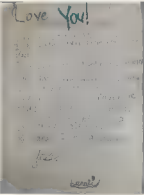
**14** *Friday Feb 2014*

Posted by [kushibaka](#) in [kid stories](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)

Tags

[Parenting](#)



Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

Like this:

Like Loading...

*Related*

### Post navigation

[← Previous post](#)

Leave a Reply

Email

Name

Website

☐ Notify me of follow-up comments via email.

☐ Notify me of new posts via email.

Post Comment

Search:

### Follow Blog

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 921 other followers

### Recent Posts

- [Button's Valentine's Day Card to Us](#)
- [Worth](#)
- [1489](#)
- [Flooding the Bathroom](#)
- [1485](#)

### Archives

- [February 2014](#)
- [January 2014](#)
- [December 2013](#)
- [November 2013](#)
- [October 2013](#)
- [September 2013](#)
- [August 2013](#)
- [June 2013](#)
- [May 2013](#)
- [April 2013](#)
- [March 2013](#)
- [February 2013](#)
- [January 2013](#)
- [December 2012](#)
- [November 2012](#)
- [October 2012](#)
- [September 2012](#)
- [August 2012](#)
- [July 2012](#)
- [June 2012](#)
- [May 2012](#)
- [April 2012](#)
- [March 2012](#)
- [January 2012](#)
- [December 2011](#)
- [November 2011](#)
- [October 2011](#)
- [September 2011](#)
- [August 2011](#)
- [July 2011](#)
- [April 2011](#)
- [March 2011](#)
- [February 2011](#)
- [January 2011](#)
- [December 2010](#)
- [November 2010](#)
- [October 2010](#)
- [September 2010](#)
- [August 2010](#)
- [July 2010](#)
- [June 2010](#)
- [May 2010](#)
- [April 2010](#)
- [March 2010](#)
- [February 2010](#)
- [January 2010](#)
- [December 2009](#)
- [November 2009](#)
- [October 2009](#)
- [September 2009](#)
- [August 2009](#)
- [July 2009](#)
- [June 2009](#)
- [May 2009](#)
- [March 2009](#)
- [February 2009](#)
- [January 2009](#)
- [December 2008](#)
- [November 2008](#)
- [October 2008](#)
- [September 2008](#)
- [August 2008](#)
- [July 2008](#)
- [June 2008](#)
- [May 2008](#)
- [April 2008](#)
- [March 2008](#)
- [February 2008](#)
- [January 2008](#)
- [December 2007](#)
- [November 2007](#)
- [October 2007](#)
- [September 2007](#)
- [August 2007](#)
- [July 2007](#)
- [June 2007](#)
- [May 2007](#)
- [April 2007](#)
- [March 2007](#)
- [February 2007](#)
- [January 2007](#)

### Categories

Select Category ▼

[Blog at WordPress.com. The Chateau Theme.](#)

[Follow](#)

Follow “**Kelly Tshibaka**”

Get every new post delivered to your Inbox.

Join 921 other followers

Powered by [WordPress.com](#)

%d bloggers like this:

- [About](#)
- [Resources](#)
- [Speaking](#)

## Kelly Tshibaka

~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional

Search:



[Image](#)

### 2 Days Til Baby Girl

[19 Wednesday, Feb 2014](#)

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [Uncategorized](#)

≈ [1 Comment](#)



Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

Like this:


Like [Loading...](#)

#### Related

#### Post navigation

[← Previous post](#)

#### 1 thought on “2 Days Til Baby Girl”

- 

Susan Antoe said:

[February 19, 2014 at 10:12 am](#)

Congratulations precious friend! I have been Thinking about you. Lots of love and prayers Your way!

Love you, Susan

>

[Reply](#)

#### Leave a Reply

Email

(Emails never made public)

Name

Website

☐ Notify me of follow-up comments via email.

☐ Notify me of new posts via email.

Post Comment

Search:

#### Follow Blog

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 921 other followers

#### Recent Posts

- [2 Days Til Baby Girl](#)
- [Clay or Porsherd?](#)
- [Burton's Valentine's Day Card to Us](#)
- [Wordh](#)
- [1499](#)

#### Archives

- [February 2014](#)
- [January 2014](#)
- [December 2013](#)
- [November 2013](#)
- [October 2013](#)
- [September 2013](#)
- [August 2013](#)
- [June 2013](#)
- [May 2013](#)
- [April 2013](#)
- [March 2013](#)
- [February 2013](#)
- [January 2013](#)
- [December 2012](#)
- [November 2012](#)
- [October 2012](#)
- [September 2012](#)
- [August 2012](#)
- [July 2012](#)
- [June 2012](#)
- [May 2012](#)
- [April 2012](#)
- [March 2012](#)
- [January 2012](#)
- [December 2011](#)
- [November 2011](#)
- [October 2011](#)
- [September 2011](#)
- [August 2011](#)
- [July 2011](#)
- [April 2011](#)
- [March 2011](#)
- [February 2011](#)
- [January 2011](#)
- [December 2010](#)
- [November 2010](#)
- [October 2010](#)
- [September 2010](#)
- [August 2010](#)
- [July 2010](#)
- [June 2010](#)
- [May 2010](#)
- [April 2010](#)
- [March 2010](#)
- [February 2010](#)
- [January 2010](#)
- [December 2009](#)
- [November 2009](#)
- [October 2009](#)
- [September 2009](#)
- [August 2009](#)
- [July 2009](#)
- [June 2009](#)
- [May 2009](#)
- [March 2009](#)
- [February 2009](#)
- [January 2009](#)
- [December 2008](#)
- [November 2008](#)
- [October 2008](#)
- [September 2008](#)
- [August 2008](#)
- [July 2008](#)
- [June 2008](#)
- [May 2008](#)
- [April 2008](#)
- [March 2008](#)
- [February 2008](#)
- [January 2008](#)
- [December 2007](#)
- [November 2007](#)
- [October 2007](#)
- [September 2007](#)
- [August 2007](#)
- [July 2007](#)
- [June 2007](#)
- [May 2007](#)
- [April 2007](#)
- [March 2007](#)
- [February 2007](#)
- [January 2007](#)

#### Categories

▾

[Blog at WordPress.com. The Chateau Theme.](#)

[Follow](#)

#### Follow “Kelly Tshibaka”

Get every new post delivered to your Inbox.

Join 921 other followers

Powered by [WordPress.com](#)

%d bloggers like this:

- [About](#)
- [Resources](#)
- [Speaking](#)

## Kelly Tshibaka

~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional

Search:



[Image](#)

So Excited to Hold You Tomorrow!

20 Thursday Feb 2014

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [Uncategorized](#)

≈ [Leave a Comment](#)



Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

Like this:

Like Loading...

*Related*

Post navigation

[← Previous post](#) [Next post →](#)

Leave a Reply

Enter your comment here...

Search:

Follow Blog

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 921 other followers

Recent Posts

- [Hope](#)
- [So Excited to Hold You Tomorrow!](#)
- [2 Days Till Baby Girl](#)
- [Clay or Potsherd?](#)
- [Burton's Valentine's Day Card to Us](#)

Archives

- [February 2014](#)
- [January 2014](#)
- [December 2013](#)
- [November 2013](#)
- [October 2013](#)
- [September 2013](#)
- [August 2013](#)
- [June 2013](#)
- [May 2013](#)
- [April 2013](#)
- [March 2013](#)
- [February 2013](#)
- [January 2013](#)
- [December 2012](#)
- [November 2012](#)
- [October 2012](#)
- [September 2012](#)
- [August 2012](#)
- [July 2012](#)
- [June 2012](#)
- [May 2012](#)
- [April 2012](#)
- [March 2012](#)
- [January 2012](#)
- [December 2011](#)
- [November 2011](#)
- [October 2011](#)
- [September 2011](#)
- [August 2011](#)
- [July 2011](#)
- [April 2011](#)
- [March 2011](#)
- [February 2011](#)
- [January 2011](#)
- [December 2010](#)
- [November 2010](#)
- [October 2010](#)
- [September 2010](#)
- [August 2010](#)
- [July 2010](#)
- [June 2010](#)
- [May 2010](#)
- [April 2010](#)
- [March 2010](#)
- [February 2010](#)
- [January 2010](#)
- [December 2009](#)
- [November 2009](#)
- [October 2009](#)
- [September 2009](#)
- [August 2009](#)
- [July 2009](#)
- [June 2009](#)
- [May 2009](#)
- [March 2009](#)
- [February 2009](#)
- [January 2009](#)
- [December 2008](#)
- [November 2008](#)
- [October 2008](#)
- [September 2008](#)
- [August 2008](#)
- [July 2008](#)
- [June 2008](#)
- [May 2008](#)
- [April 2008](#)
- [March 2008](#)
- [February 2008](#)
- [January 2008](#)
- [December 2007](#)
- [November 2007](#)
- [October 2007](#)
- [September 2007](#)
- [August 2007](#)
- [July 2007](#)
- [June 2007](#)
- [May 2007](#)
- [April 2007](#)
- [March 2007](#)
- [February 2007](#)
- [January 2007](#)

Categories

▾

[Blog at WordPress.com.](#) [The Chateau Theme.](#)

[Follow](#)

Follow “Kelly Tshibaka”

Get every new post delivered to your Inbox.

Join 921 other followers

[Powered by WordPress.com](#)

%6d bloggers like this:





```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8" ?>
<rss xmlns:content="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/content/" xmlns:dc="http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/" xmlns:atom="http://www.w3.org/2005/Atom"
xmlns:sy="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/syndication/" xmlns:georss="http://www.georss.org/georss" xmlns:geo="http://www.w3.org/2003/01/geo/wgs84_pos#"
xmlns:media="http://search.yahoo.com/mrss/" version="2.0">
  <channel>
    <title>Comments on: Christmas Letter from the Tshibakas</title>
    <atom:link href="http://kellytshibaka.com/2013/12/24/christmas-letter-from-the-tshibakas/feed/" rel="self" type="application/rss+xml"/>
    <link>
      http://kellytshibaka.com/2013/12/24/christmas-letter-from-the-tshibakas/
    </link>
    <description>
      Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional
    </description>
    <lastBuildDate>Fri, 21 Feb 2014 08:53:36 +0000</lastBuildDate>
    <sy:updatePeriod>hourly</sy:updatePeriod>
    <sy:updateFrequency>1</sy:updateFrequency>
    <generator>http://wordpress.com/</generator>
    <item>
      <title>By: Peg Travis</title>
      <link>
        http://kellytshibaka.com/2013/12/24/christmas-letter-from-the-tshibakas/comment-page-1/#comment-785
      </link>
      <dc:creator>
        <![CDATA[ Peg Travis ]]>
      </dc:creator>
      <pubDate>Tue, 24 Dec 2013 23:51:47 +0000</pubDate>
      <guid isPermaLink="false">http://kellytshibaka.com/?p=1453#comment-785</guid>
      <description>
        <![CDATA[
          OH, Kelly, remember those days of the back yard bbq at Sharon and Jim's? What fun and what great memories. We so enjoying hearing about you, Nick
          and beautiful family. Please do keep us posted. Congrats on your new job and all the great work you and Nick are doing with the church. May God bless you
          and we love you all. Merry Christmas, Peg Travis and Dave Hirschert
        ]]>
      </description>
      <content:encoded>
        <![CDATA[
          <p>OH, Kelly, remember those days of the back yard bbq at Sharon and Jim's? What fun and what great memories.<br /> We so enjoying hearing
          about you, Nick and beautiful family. Please do keep us posted.<br /> Congrats on your new job and all the great work you and Nick are doing with the
          church.<br /> May God bless you and we love you all.<br /> Merry Christmas,<br /> Peg Travis and Dave Hirschert</p>
        ]]>
      </content:encoded>
    </item>
    <item>
      <title>By: Susan Anton</title>
      <link>
        http://kellytshibaka.com/2013/12/24/christmas-letter-from-the-tshibakas/comment-page-1/#comment-784
      </link>
      <dc:creator>
        <![CDATA[ Susan Anton ]]>
      </dc:creator>
      <pubDate>Tue, 24 Dec 2013 21:31:56 +0000</pubDate>
      <guid isPermaLink="false">http://kellytshibaka.com/?p=1453#comment-784</guid>
      <description>
        <![CDATA[ I love you guys! Merry Christmas!! &gt; ]]>
      </description>
      <content:encoded>
        <![CDATA[
          <p>I love you guys! Merry Christmas!! </p> <p>&gt;</p>
        ]]>
      </content:encoded>
    </item>
    <item>
      <title>By: Anonymous</title>
      <link>
        http://kellytshibaka.com/2013/12/24/christmas-letter-from-the-tshibakas/comment-page-1/#comment-783
      </link>
      <dc:creator>
        <![CDATA[ Anonymous ]]>
      </dc:creator>
      <pubDate>Tue, 24 Dec 2013 18:16:44 +0000</pubDate>
      <guid isPermaLink="false">http://kellytshibaka.com/?p=1453#comment-783</guid>
      <description>
        <![CDATA[ Merry Christmas from the Lawsons!! ]]>
      </description>
      <content:encoded>
        <![CDATA[ <p>Merry Christmas from the Lawsons!!</p> ]]>
      </content:encoded>
    </item>
  </channel>
</rss>
```

This XML file does not appear to have any style information associated with it. The document tree is shown below.

```
▼<rss xmlns:content="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/content/" xmlns:dc="http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/" xmlns:atom="http://www.w3.org/2005/Atom"
xmlns:sy="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/syndication/" xmlns:georss="http://www.georss.org/georss" xmlns:geo="http://www.w3.org/2003/01/geo/wgs84_pos#"
xmlns:media="http://search.yahoo.com/mrss/" version="2.0">
▼<channel>
  <title>Comments on: How People Can Lose Their Faith</title>
  <atom:link href="http://kellytshibaka.com/2014/01/04/how-people-can-lose-their-faith/feed/" rel="self" type="application/rss+xml"/>
  <link>http://kellytshibaka.com/2014/01/04/how-people-can-lose-their-faith/</link>
  <description>Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional</description>
  <lastBuildDate>Fri, 21 Feb 2014 08:53:36 +0000</lastBuildDate>
  <sy:updatePeriod>hourly</sy:updatePeriod>
  <sy:updateFrequency>1</sy:updateFrequency>
  <generator>http://wordpress.com/</generator>
▼<item>
  <title>By: Candy</title>
  <link>http://kellytshibaka.com/2014/01/04/how-people-can-lose-their-faith/comment-page-1/#comment-1296</link>
▼<dc:creator>
  <![CDATA[ Candy ]]>
</dc:creator>
  <pubDate>Mon, 03 Feb 2014 12:08:08 +0000</pubDate>
  <guid isPermaLink="false">http://kellytshibaka.com/?p=1465#comment-1296</guid>
▼<description>
  <![CDATA[ That's the thkiinnng of a creative mind ]]>
</description>
▼<content:encoded>
  <![CDATA[ <p>That's the thkiinnng of a creative mind</p> ]]>
  </content:encoded>
</item>
</channel>
</rss>
```



This XML file does not appear to have any style information associated with it. The document tree is shown below.

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8" ?>
<rss xmlns:content="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/content/" xmlns:dc="http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/" xmlns:atom="http://www.w3.org/2005/Atom"
xmlns:sy="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/syndication/" xmlns:georss="http://www.georss.org/georss" xmlns:geo="http://www.w3.org/2003/01/geo/wgs84_pos#"
xmlns:media="http://search.yahoo.com/mrss/" version="2.0">
  <channel>
    <title>
      Comments on: Should Women Change Their Names When They Get Married?
    </title>
    <atom:link href="http://kellytshibaka.com/2014/01/08/should-women-change-their-names-when-they-get-married/feed/" rel="self" type="application/rss+xml"/>
    <link>
      http://kellytshibaka.com/2014/01/08/should-women-change-their-names-when-they-get-married/
    </link>
    <description>
      Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional
    </description>
    <lastBuildDate>Fri, 21 Feb 2014 08:53:36 +0000</lastBuildDate>
    <sy:updatePeriod>hourly</sy:updatePeriod>
    <sy:updateFrequency>1</sy:updateFrequency>
    <generator>http://wordpress.com/</generator>
    <item>
      <title>By: Tim Mossholder</title>
      <link>
        http://kellytshibaka.com/2014/01/08/should-women-change-their-names-when-they-get-married/comment-page-1/#comment-805
      </link>
      <dc:creator>
        <![CDATA[ Tim Mossholder ]]>
      </dc:creator>
      <pubDate>Wed, 08 Jan 2014 22:47:28 +0000</pubDate>
      <guid isPermaLink="false">http://kellytshibaka.com/?p=1471#comment-805</guid>
      <description>
        <![CDATA[
          Kelly...as a liberal-conservative guy, I appreciate your words on this. It is a challenging conversation, and one well served by a woman's
          insightful and honest perspective. Thanks for always being willing to dive into the deep end of the pool, and for your commitment to keep God's
          heart front and center.
        ]]>
      </description>
      <content:encoded>
        <![CDATA[
          <p>Kelly's as a liberal-conservative guy, I appreciate your words on this. It is a challenging conversation, and one well served by a woman's
          insightful and honest perspective. Thanks for always being willing to dive into the deep end of the pool, and for your commitment to keep God's
          heart front and center.</p>
        ]]>
      </content:encoded>
    </item>
  </channel>
</rss>
```



# Kelly Tshibaka ~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional

Search...

Go



25  
Tuesday  
Feb 2014

## Siah's 2014 goals

POSTED BY KATHISHKA W. KID STORIES

LEAVE A COMMENT

Siah did a 2014 project at school. I loved his answers and the insight it gave me into him:

Two new goals I have for this year:

1. To get higher grades
2. To study

Something I like to stop doing:

1. Stop getting yellows (behavior demerits)

A new place I'd like to go:

1. Congo

Four things I want to learn:

1. Division
2. Multiplication
3. How to add fractions
4. How to subtract fractions

Twitter Facebook Email LinkedIn More Share this:

2,338 Views

Previous post

LEAVE A REPLY

Enter your comment here...

Search... Go

FOLLOW BLOG

Enter your email address to follow the blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 923 other followers

Follow

RECENT POSTS

- Siah's 2014 goals
- This Made Me Laugh!
- Hope
- So Excited to Hold You Tomorrow!
- 2 Days To Baby Girl

ARCHIVED

- February 2014
- January 2014
- December 2013
- November 2013
- October 2013
- September 2013
- August 2013
- June 2013
- May 2013
- April 2013
- March 2013
- February 2013
- January 2013
- December 2012
- November 2012
- October 2012
- September 2012
- August 2012
- July 2012
- June 2012
- May 2012
- April 2012
- March 2012
- January 2012
- December 2011
- November 2011
- October 2011
- September 2011
- August 2011
- July 2011
- April 2011
- March 2011
- February 2011
- January 2011
- December 2010
- November 2010
- October 2010
- September 2010
- August 2010
- July 2010
- June 2010
- May 2010
- April 2010
- March 2010
- February 2010
- January 2010
- December 2009
- November 2009
- October 2009
- September 2009
- August 2009
- July 2009
- June 2009
- May 2009
- March 2009
- February 2009
- January 2009
- December 2008
- November 2008
- October 2008
- September 2008
- August 2008
- July 2008
- June 2008
- May 2008
- April 2008
- March 2008
- February 2008
- January 2008
- December 2007
- November 2007
- October 2007
- September 2007
- August 2007
- July 2007
- June 2007
- May 2007
- April 2007
- March 2007
- February 2007
- January 2007

CATEGORIES

Select Category

This XML file does not appear to have any style information associated with it. The document tree is shown below.

```
▼<rss xmlns:content="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/content/" xmlns:dc="http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/" xmlns:atom="http://www.w3.org/2005/Atom"
xmlns:sy="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/syndication/" xmlns:georss="http://www.georss.org/georss" xmlns:geo="http://www.w3.org/2003/01/geo/wgs84_pos#"
xmlns:media="http://search.yahoo.com/mrss/" version="2.0">
▼<channel>
  ▼<title>
    Comments on: The Kind of Encouragement that Makes My Heart Soar
  </title>
  <atom:link href="http://kellytshibaka.com/2014/01/06/the-kind-of-encouragement-that-makes-my-heart-soar/feed/" rel="self" type="application/rss+xml"/>
  ▼<link>
    http://kellytshibaka.com/2014/01/06/the-kind-of-encouragement-that-makes-my-heart-soar/
  </link>
  ▼<description>
    Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional
  </description>
  <lastBuildDate>Fri, 21 Feb 2014 08:53:36 +0000</lastBuildDate>
  <sy:updatePeriod>hourly</sy:updatePeriod>
  <sy:updateFrequency>1</sy:updateFrequency>
  <generator>http://wordpress.com/</generator>
  ▼<item>
    <title>By: Isaac Hovet</title>
    ▼<link>
      http://kellytshibaka.com/2014/01/06/the-kind-of-encouragement-that-makes-my-heart-soar/comment-page-1/#comment-803
    </link>
    ▼<dc:creator>
      <![CDATA[ Isaac Hovet ]]>
    </dc:creator>
    <pubDate>Mon, 06 Jan 2014 18:50:09 +0000</pubDate>
    <guid isPermaLink="false">http://kellytshibaka.com/?p=1469#comment-803</guid>
    ▼<description>
      ▼<![CDATA[
        Precisely the kind of encouragement we should long for. Great work!
      ]]>
    </description>
    ▼<content:encoded>
      ▼<![CDATA[
        <p>Precisely the kind of encouragement we should long for. Great work!</p>
      ]]>
    </content:encoded>
  </item>
</channel>
</rss>
```

This XML file does not appear to have any style information associated with it. The document tree is shown below.

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8" ?>
<rss xmlns:content="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/content/" xmlns:dc="http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/" xmlns:atom="http://www.w3.org/2005/Atom"
xmlns:sy="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/syndication/" xmlns:georss="http://www.georss.org/georss" xmlns:geo="http://www.w3.org/2003/01/geo/wgs84_pos#"
xmlns:media="http://search.yahoo.com/mrss/" version="2.0">
  <channel>
    <title>
      Comments on: What Button Liked the Most about an Epic Novel
    </title>
    <atom:link href="http://kellytshibaka.com/2013/12/21/what-button-liked-the-most-about-an-epic-novel/feed/" rel="self" type="application/rss+xml"/>
    <link>
      http://kellytshibaka.com/2013/12/21/what-button-liked-the-most-about-an-epic-novel/
    </link>
    <description>
      Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional
    </description>
    <lastBuildDate>Fri, 21 Feb 2014 08:53:36 +0000</lastBuildDate>
    <sy:updatePeriod>hourly</sy:updatePeriod>
    <sy:updateFrequency>1</sy:updateFrequency>
    <generator>http://wordpress.com/</generator>
    <item>
      <title>By: The Mad-Hatted Regent</title>
      <link>
        http://kellytshibaka.com/2013/12/21/what-button-liked-the-most-about-an-epic-novel/comment-page-1/#comment-780
      </link>
      <dc:creator>
        <![CDATA[ The Mad-Hatted Regent ]]>
      </dc:creator>
      <pubDate>Sat, 21 Dec 2013 15:01:47 +0000</pubDate>
      <guid isPermaLink="false">
        https://kellytshibaka.wordpress.com/?p=1451#comment-780
      </guid>
      <description>
        <![CDATA[
          LOL! What was the typo?!?! And what was the book? So cute! Ian Alan Elliott Sent from my awesome iPhone 5!
        ]]>
      </description>
      <content:encoded>
        <![CDATA[
          <p>LOL! What was the typo?!?! And what was the book? So cute! </p> <p>Ian Alan Elliott </p> <p>Sent from my awesome iPhone 5!</p>
        ]]>
      </content:encoded>
    </item>
  </channel>
</rss>
```

This XML file does not appear to have any style information associated with it. The document tree is shown below.

```
▼<rss xmlns:content="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/content/" xmlns:dc="http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/" xmlns:atom="http://www.w3.org/2005/Atom"
xmlns:sy="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/syndication/" xmlns:georss="http://www.georss.org/georss" xmlns:geo="http://www.w3.org/2003/01/geo/wgs84_pos#"
xmlns:media="http://search.yahoo.com/mrss/" version="2.0">
▼<channel>
  <title>Comments on: Thoughts on Praying to Mary</title>
  <atom:link href="http://kellytshibaka.com/2014/01/02/thoughts-on-praying-to-mary/feed/" rel="self" type="application/rss+xml"/>
▼<link>
  http://kellytshibaka.com/2014/01/02/thoughts-on-praying-to-mary/
</link>
▼<description>
  Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional
</description>
<lastBuildDate>Fri, 21 Feb 2014 08:53:36 +0000</lastBuildDate>
<sy:updatePeriod>hourly</sy:updatePeriod>
<sy:updateFrequency>1</sy:updateFrequency>
<generator>http://wordpress.com/</generator>
</channel>
</rss>
```



This XML file does not appear to have any style information associated with it. The document tree is shown below.

```
▼<rss xmlns:content="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/content/" xmlns:dc="http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/" xmlns:atom="http://www.w3.org/2005/Atom"
xmlns:sy="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/syndication/" xmlns:georss="http://www.georss.org/georss" xmlns:geo="http://www.w3.org/2003/01/geo/wgs84_pos#"
xmlns:media="http://search.yahoo.com/mrss/" version="2.0">
▼<channel>
  ▼<title>
    Comments on: I Gave All My Allowance. What's Your Excuse?
  </title>
  <atom:link href="http://kellytshibaka.com/2014/01/11/i-gave-all-my-allowance-whats-your-excuse/feed/" rel="self" type="application/rss+xml"/>
  ▼<link>
    http://kellytshibaka.com/2014/01/11/i-gave-all-my-allowance-whats-your-excuse/
  </link>
  ▼<description>
    Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional
  </description>
  <lastBuildDate>Fri, 21 Feb 2014 08:53:36 +0000</lastBuildDate>
  <sy:updatePeriod>hourly</sy:updatePeriod>
  <sy:updateFrequency>1</sy:updateFrequency>
  <generator>http://wordpress.com/</generator>
</channel>
</rss>
```

This XML file does not appear to have any style information associated with it. The document tree is shown below.

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8" ?>
<rss xmlns:content="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/content/" xmlns:dc="http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/" xmlns:atom="http://www.w3.org/2005/Atom"
xmlns:sy="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/syndication/" xmlns:georss="http://www.georss.org/georss" xmlns:geo="http://www.w3.org/2003/01/geo/wgs84_pos#"
xmlns:media="http://search.yahoo.com/mrss/" version="2.0">
  <channel>
    <title>Comments on: </title>
    <atom:link href="http://kellytshibaka.com/2014/02/01/1479/feed/" rel="self" type="application/rss+xml"/>
    <link>http://kellytshibaka.com/2014/02/01/1479/</link>
    <description>Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional</description>
    <lastBuildDate>Tue, 11 Mar 2014 04:36:33 +0000</lastBuildDate>
    <sy:updatePeriod>hourly</sy:updatePeriod>
    <sy:updateFrequency>1</sy:updateFrequency>
    <generator>http://wordpress.com/</generator>
  </channel>
</rss>
```

This XML file does not appear to have any style information associated with it. The document tree is shown below.

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8" ?>
<rss xmlns:content="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/content/" xmlns:dc="http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/" xmlns:atom="http://www.w3.org/2005/Atom"
xmlns:sy="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/syndication/" xmlns:georss="http://www.georss.org/georss" xmlns:geo="http://www.w3.org/2003/01/geo/wgs84_pos#"
xmlns:media="http://search.yahoo.com/mrss/" version="2.0">
  <channel>
    <title>Comments on: Button and Her Pre-Teen Attitude</title>
    <atom:link href="http://kellytshibaka.com/2014/02/02/button-and-her-pre-teen-attitude/feed/" rel="self" type="application/rss+xml"/>
    <link>http://kellytshibaka.com/2014/02/02/button-and-her-pre-teen-attitude/</link>
    <description>Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional</description>
    <lastBuildDate>Tue, 11 Mar 2014 04:36:33 +0000</lastBuildDate>
    <sy:updatePeriod>hourly</sy:updatePeriod>
    <sy:updateFrequency>1</sy:updateFrequency>
    <generator>http://wordpress.com/</generator>
  </channel>
</rss>
```

This XML file does not appear to have any style information associated with it. The document tree is shown below.

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8" ?>
<rss xmlns:content="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/content/" xmlns:dc="http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/" xmlns:atom="http://www.w3.org/2005/Atom"
xmlns:sy="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/syndication/" xmlns:georss="http://www.georss.org/georss" xmlns:geo="http://www.w3.org/2003/01/geo/wgs84_pos#"
xmlns:media="http://search.yahoo.com/mrss/" version="2.0">
  <channel>
    <title>Comments on: </title>
    <atom:link href="http://kellytshibaka.com/2014/02/03/1483/feed/" rel="self" type="application/rss+xml"/>
    <link>http://kellytshibaka.com/2014/02/03/1483/</link>
    <description>
      Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional
    </description>
    <lastBuildDate>Tue, 11 Mar 2014 04:36:33 +0000</lastBuildDate>
    <sy:updatePeriod>hourly</sy:updatePeriod>
    <sy:updateFrequency>1</sy:updateFrequency>
    <generator>http://wordpress.com/</generator>
  </channel>
</rss>
```



This XML file does not appear to have any style information associated with it. The document tree is shown below.

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8" ?>
<rss xmlns:content="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/content/" xmlns:dc="http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/" xmlns:atom="http://www.w3.org/2005/Atom"
xmlns:sy="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/syndication/" xmlns:georss="http://www.georss.org/georss" xmlns:geo="http://www.w3.org/2003/01/geo/wgs84_pos#"
xmlns:media="http://search.yahoo.com/mrss/" version="2.0">
  <channel>
    <title>Comments on: </title>
    <atom:link href="http://kellytshibaka.com/2014/02/04/1485/feed/" rel="self" type="application/rss+xml"/>
    <link>http://kellytshibaka.com/2014/02/04/1485/</link>
    <description>
      Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional
    </description>
    <lastBuildDate>Tue, 11 Mar 2014 04:36:33 +0000</lastBuildDate>
    <sy:updatePeriod>hourly</sy:updatePeriod>
    <sy:updateFrequency>1</sy:updateFrequency>
    <generator>http://wordpress.com/</generator>
  </channel>
</rss>
```

This XML file does not appear to have any style information associated with it. The document tree is shown below.

```
▼<rss xmlns:content="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/content/" xmlns:dc="http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/" xmlns:atom="http://www.w3.org/2005/Atom"
xmlns:sy="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/syndication/" xmlns:georss="http://www.georss.org/georss" xmlns:geo="http://www.w3.org/2003/01/geo/wgs84_pos#"
xmlns:media="http://search.yahoo.com/mrss/" version="2.0">
▼<channel>
  <title>Comments on: Flooding the Bathroom</title>
  <atom:link href="http://kellytshibaka.com/2014/02/05/flooding-the-bathroom/feed/" rel="self" type="application/rss+xml"/>
▼<link>
  http://kellytshibaka.com/2014/02/05/flooding-the-bathroom/
</link>
▼<description>
  Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional
</description>
<lastBuildDate>Tue, 11 Mar 2014 04:36:33 +0000</lastBuildDate>
<sy:updatePeriod>hourly</sy:updatePeriod>
<sy:updateFrequency>1</sy:updateFrequency>
<generator>http://wordpress.com/</generator>
</channel>
</rss>
```

This XML file does not appear to have any style information associated with it. The document tree is shown below.

```
▼<rss xmlns:content="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/content/" xmlns:dc="http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/" xmlns:atom="http://www.w3.org/2005/Atom"
xmlns:sy="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/syndication/" xmlns:georss="http://www.georss.org/georss" xmlns:geo="http://www.w3.org/2003/01/geo/wgs84_pos#"
xmlns:media="http://search.yahoo.com/mrss/" version="2.0">
▼<channel>
  <title>Comments on: </title>
  <atom:link href="http://kellytshibaka.com/2014/02/07/1489/feed/" rel="self" type="application/rss+xml"/>
  <link>http://kellytshibaka.com/2014/02/07/1489/</link>
▼<description>
  Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional
</description>
<lastBuildDate>Tue, 11 Mar 2014 04:36:33 +0000</lastBuildDate>
<sy:updatePeriod>hourly</sy:updatePeriod>
<sy:updateFrequency>1</sy:updateFrequency>
<generator>http://wordpress.com/</generator>
▼<item>
  <title>By: Isaac Hovet</title>
  ▼<link>
    http://kellytshibaka.com/2014/02/07/1489/comment-page-1/#comment-2137
  </link>
  ▼<dc:creator>
    <![CDATA[ Isaac Hovet ]]>
  </dc:creator>
  <pubDate>Sun, 09 Feb 2014 14:34:32 +0000</pubDate>
  ▼<guid isPermaLink="false">
    https://kellytshibaka.wordpress.com/?p=1489#comment-2137
  </guid>
  ▼<description>
    ▼<![CDATA[
      Good! ijh BLOG: *www.isaachovet.com * CHURCH: *www.cg4.tv * EQ: *www.turnaroundchurch.com * LIFE: *www.facebook.com/ihovet * TWEETING:
      *www.twitter.com/isaachovet * On Fri, Feb 7, 2014 at 4:40 PM, Kelly Tshibaka
    ]]>
  </description>
  ▼<content:encoded>
    ▼<![CDATA[
      <p>Good! </p> <p>ijh BLOG: *www.isaachovet.com * CHURCH: *www.cg4.tv * EQ: *www.turnaroundchurch.com * LIFE: *www.facebook.com/ihovet * TWEETING:
      *www.twitter.com/isaachovet * </p> <p>On Fri, Feb 7, 2014 at 4:40 PM, Kelly Tshibaka</p>
    ]]>
  </content:encoded>
</item>
</channel>
</rss>
```

# Kelly Tshibaka ~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional

Search...

Go



18  
Tuesday  
Mar 2014

## Sometimes I think I'm in charge...

POSTED BY KATHARINE PUGH, RAISING KIDS

2 COMMENTS

But then I have to sit on this step...

Tags  
Parenting



Twitter Facebook Email LinkedIn More Share This

1 Comment

Previous post

2

### THOUGHTS ON "SOMETIMES I THINK I'M IN CHARGE..."



Lindsay said:

March 20, 2014 at 1:11 pm

Hahahah! Wait, that's not as funny when it'll probably happen in my house tonight too....it's good to see it with eyes of humor, though. :D

REPLY



Tim Mossholder said:

March 20, 2014 at 2:17 pm

Absolutely classic!

REPLY

LEAVE A REPLY

Enter your comment here...

FOLLOW BLOG

Enter your email address to follow the blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 929 other followers

Follow

RECENT POSTS

- Sometimes I think I'm in charge...
- Siah's 2014 goals
- This Made Me Laugh!
- Hope
- So Excited to Hold You Tomorrow!

ARCHIVES

- March 2014
- February 2014
- January 2014
- December 2013
- November 2013
- October 2013
- September 2013
- August 2013
- June 2013
- May 2013
- April 2013
- March 2013
- February 2013
- January 2013
- December 2012
- November 2012
- October 2012
- September 2012
- August 2012
- July 2012
- June 2012
- May 2012
- April 2012
- March 2012
- January 2012
- December 2011
- November 2011
- October 2011
- September 2011
- August 2011
- July 2011
- June 2011
- April 2011
- March 2011
- February 2011
- January 2011
- December 2010
- November 2010
- October 2010
- September 2010
- August 2010
- July 2010
- June 2010
- May 2010
- April 2010
- March 2010
- February 2010
- January 2010
- December 2009
- November 2009
- October 2009
- September 2009
- August 2009
- July 2009
- June 2009
- May 2009
- March 2009
- February 2009
- January 2009
- December 2008
- November 2008
- October 2008
- September 2008
- August 2008
- July 2008
- June 2008
- May 2008
- April 2008
- March 2008
- February 2008
- January 2008
- December 2007
- November 2007
- October 2007
- September 2007
- August 2007
- July 2007
- June 2007
- May 2007
- April 2007
- March 2007
- February 2007
- January 2007

CATEGORIES

Select Category



- [About](#)
- [Resources](#)
- [Speaking](#)

## Kelly Tshibaka

### ~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional

Search:



#### Worth

[10 Monday Feb 2014](#)

Posted by [kishibaka](#) in [Uncategorized](#)

≈ [Leave a comment](#)

My worth is not measured in how much I accomplish, but how much I love.

#### Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

#### Like this:

Like Loading...

#### Related

#### Post navigation

[← Previous post](#) [Next post →](#)

#### Leave a Reply

Enter your comment here.

4

Search:

#### Follow Blog

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 941 other followers

#### Recent Posts

- [Sometimes I think I'm in charge...](#)
- [Slah's 2014 goals](#)
- [This Made Me Laugh!](#)
- [Hope](#)
- [So Excited to Hold You Tomorrow!](#)

#### Archives

- [March 2014](#)
- [February 2014](#)
- [January 2014](#)
- [December 2013](#)
- [November 2013](#)
- [October 2013](#)
- [September 2013](#)
- [August 2013](#)
- [June 2013](#)
- [May 2013](#)
- [April 2013](#)
- [March 2013](#)
- [February 2013](#)
- [January 2013](#)
- [December 2012](#)
- [November 2012](#)
- [October 2012](#)
- [September 2012](#)
- [August 2012](#)
- [July 2012](#)
- [June 2012](#)
- [May 2012](#)
- [April 2012](#)
- [March 2012](#)
- [January 2012](#)
- [December 2011](#)
- [November 2011](#)
- [October 2011](#)
- [September 2011](#)
- [August 2011](#)
- [July 2011](#)
- [April 2011](#)
- [March 2011](#)
- [February 2011](#)
- [January 2011](#)
- [December 2010](#)
- [November 2010](#)
- [October 2010](#)
- [September 2010](#)
- [August 2010](#)
- [July 2010](#)
- [June 2010](#)
- [May 2010](#)
- [April 2010](#)
- [March 2010](#)
- [February 2010](#)
- [January 2010](#)
- [December 2009](#)
- [November 2009](#)
- [October 2009](#)
- [September 2009](#)
- [August 2009](#)
- [July 2009](#)
- [June 2009](#)
- [May 2009](#)
- [March 2009](#)
- [February 2009](#)
- [January 2009](#)
- [December 2008](#)
- [November 2008](#)
- [October 2008](#)
- [September 2008](#)
- [August 2008](#)
- [July 2008](#)
- [June 2008](#)
- [May 2008](#)
- [April 2008](#)
- [March 2008](#)
- [February 2008](#)
- [January 2008](#)
- [December 2007](#)
- [November 2007](#)
- [October 2007](#)
- [September 2007](#)
- [August 2007](#)
- [July 2007](#)
- [June 2007](#)
- [May 2007](#)
- [April 2007](#)
- [March 2007](#)
- [February 2007](#)
- [January 2007](#)

#### Categories

Select Category ▼

[Blog at WordPress.com.](#) [The Chateau Theme.](#)

[Follow](#)

#### Follow “Kelly Tshibaka”

Get every new post delivered to your Inbox.

Join 941 other followers

[Powered by WordPress.com](#)

%d bloggers like this:

This XML file does not appear to have any style information associated with it. The document tree is shown below.

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8" ?>
<rss xmlns:content="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/content/" xmlns:dc="http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/" xmlns:atom="http://www.w3.org/2005/Atom"
xmlns:sy="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/syndication/" xmlns:georss="http://www.georss.org/georss" xmlns:geo="http://www.w3.org/2003/01/geo/wgs84_pos#"
xmlns:media="http://search.yahoo.com/mrss/" version="2.0">
  <channel>
    <title>Comments on: Button's Valentine's Day Card to Us</title>
    <atom:link href="http://kellytshibaka.com/2014/02/14/buttons-valentines-day-card-to-us/feed/" rel="self" type="application/rss+xml"/>
    <link>
      http://kellytshibaka.com/2014/02/14/buttons-valentines-day-card-to-us/
    </link>
    <description>
      Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional
    </description>
    <lastBuildDate>Tue, 18 Mar 2014 17:09:03 +0000</lastBuildDate>
    <sy:updatePeriod>hourly</sy:updatePeriod>
    <sy:updateFrequency>1</sy:updateFrequency>
    <generator>http://wordpress.com/</generator>
    <item>
      <title>By: Heidi</title>
      <link>
        http://kellytshibaka.com/2014/02/14/buttons-valentines-day-card-to-us/comment-page-1/#comment-3064
      </link>
      <dc:creator>
        <![CDATA[ Heidi ]]>
      </dc:creator>
      <pubDate>Fri, 21 Feb 2014 08:53:36 +0000</pubDate>
      <guid isPermaLink="false">
        https://kellytshibaka.wordpress.com/?p=1495#comment-3064
      </guid>
      <description>
        <![CDATA[ Awww...So sweet ! ]]>
      </description>
      <content:encoded>
        <![CDATA[ <p>Awww&#8230;So sweet !</p> ]]>
      </content:encoded>
    </item>
  </channel>
</rss>
```

- [About](#)
- [Resources](#)
- [Speaking](#)

## Kelly Tshibaka

### ~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional

Search:



### Clay or Potsherd?

**18 Tuesday Feb 2014**

Posted by [kshibaka](#) in [sleep thoughts](#), [leadership](#), [ministry](#), [my spiritual journey](#), [spiritual truths](#)

≈ [Leave a comment](#)

#### Tags

[Pastoring](#), [Pioneering](#)

(A reflection from Pastor Marion Ingegneri)

A potsherd is a broken piece of pottery. These are generally found in archaeological sites but the Bible uses this word to create a powerful word picture.

But indeed, O man, who are you to reply against God? Will the thing formed say to him who *formed it*, *"Why have you made me like this?"* 21 *Does not the potter have power over the clay, from the same lump to make one vessel for honor and another for dishonor?* Romans 9:20-21

*"Woe to him who strives with his Maker! Let the potsherd strive with the potsherd of the earth! Shall the clay say to him who forms it, 'What are you making?' Or shall your handiwork say, 'He has no hands'?"* Isaiah 45:9

This word picture of a potsherd is so vivid that it shouts out for a response. We are but potsherds...broken, unused, and tossed to the wayside until the gospel comes to our life. When it does... these broken, unused, and tossed to the wayside "potsherds" often rise up against the way the Lord wants to shape, restore, and revision our lives. We are potsherds restored by the cross. This perspective reminds us that we do not own our life but we are slaves to the gospel. We are on His mission and not our own.

Lord, I remember that I am but a potsherd restored by your amazing grace. Your love has given me new purpose. You sacrificed your life for me, therefore, the purpose and destiny of my life is in your hands. Open my heart to hear greater purpose and to know that I am on mission with you. Lord, may I become more intentional about life and ministry. I pray that I am reminded that I was once a potsherd without purpose; but now, I am the righteousness of God in Christ Jesus. (2 Corinthians 5:21).

May our ears be open to hear what You want to say in regards to anything that must come into alignment with Your purposes. Remind us all that we are no longer potsherds but we are clay in Your hand... We invite you to do and say as You will in our lives.

#### Share this:

- 
- 
- 
- [More](#)
- 

#### Like this:

Like Loading...

#### Related

#### Post navigation

[← Previous post](#) [Next post →](#)

#### Leave a Reply

Search:

#### Follow Blog

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 942 other followers

#### Recent Posts

- [Sometimes I think I'm in charge...](#)
- [Shah's 2014 goals](#)
- [This Made Me Laugh!](#)
- [Hope](#)
- [So Excited to Hold You Tomorrow!](#)

#### Archives

- [March 2014](#)
- [February 2014](#)
- [January 2014](#)
- [December 2013](#)
- [November 2013](#)
- [October 2013](#)
- [September 2013](#)
- [August 2013](#)
- [June 2013](#)
- [May 2013](#)
- [April 2013](#)
- [March 2013](#)
- [February 2013](#)
- [January 2013](#)
- [December 2012](#)
- [November 2012](#)
- [October 2012](#)
- [September 2012](#)
- [August 2012](#)
- [July 2012](#)
- [June 2012](#)
- [May 2012](#)
- [April 2012](#)
- [March 2012](#)
- [January 2012](#)
- [December 2011](#)
- [November 2011](#)
- [October 2011](#)
- [September 2011](#)
- [August 2011](#)
- [July 2011](#)
- [April 2011](#)
- [March 2011](#)
- [February 2011](#)
- [January 2011](#)
- [December 2010](#)
- [November 2010](#)
- [October 2010](#)
- [September 2010](#)
- [August 2010](#)
- [July 2010](#)
- [June 2010](#)
- [May 2010](#)
- [April 2010](#)
- [March 2010](#)
- [February 2010](#)
- [January 2010](#)
- [December 2009](#)
- [November 2009](#)
- [October 2009](#)
- [September 2009](#)
- [August 2009](#)
- [July 2009](#)
- [June 2009](#)
- [May 2009](#)
- [March 2009](#)
- [February 2009](#)
- [January 2009](#)
- [December 2008](#)
- [November 2008](#)
- [October 2008](#)
- [September 2008](#)
- [August 2008](#)
- [July 2008](#)
- [June 2008](#)
- [May 2008](#)
- [April 2008](#)
- [March 2008](#)
- [February 2008](#)
- [January 2008](#)
- [December 2007](#)
- [November 2007](#)
- [October 2007](#)
- [September 2007](#)
- [August 2007](#)
- [July 2007](#)
- [June 2007](#)
- [May 2007](#)
- [April 2007](#)
- [March 2007](#)
- [February 2007](#)
- [January 2007](#)

#### Categories

Select Category

[Blog at WordPress.com](#). [The Chateau Theme](#).

[Follow](#)

#### Follow “Kelly Tshibaka”

Get every new post delivered to your Inbox.

Join 942 other followers

Powered by [WordPress.com](#)

%d bloggers like this:

This XML file does not appear to have any style information associated with it. The document tree is shown below.

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8" ?>
<rss xmlns:content="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/content/" xmlns:dc="http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/" xmlns:atom="http://www.w3.org/2005/Atom"
xmlns:sy="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/syndication/" xmlns:georss="http://www.georss.org/georss" xmlns:geo="http://www.w3.org/2003/01/geo/wgs84_pos#"
xmlns:media="http://search.yahoo.com/mrss/" version="2.0">
  <channel>
    <title>Comments on: 2 Days Til Baby Girl</title>
    <atom:link href="http://kellytshibaka.com/2014/02/19/2-days-til-baby-girl/feed/" rel="self" type="application/rss+xml"/>
    <link>http://kellytshibaka.com/2014/02/19/2-days-til-baby-girl/</link>
    <description>Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional</description>
    <lastBuildDate>Tue, 18 Mar 2014 17:09:03 +0000</lastBuildDate>
    <sy:updatePeriod>hourly</sy:updatePeriod>
    <sy:updateFrequency>1</sy:updateFrequency>
    <generator>http://wordpress.com/</generator>
  </channel>
  <item>
    <title>By: Tim Mossholder</title>
    <link>http://kellytshibaka.com/2014/02/19/2-days-til-baby-girl/comment-page-1/#comment-2913</link>
    <dc:creator>
      <![CDATA[ Tim Mossholder ]]>
    </dc:creator>
    <pubDate>Wed, 19 Feb 2014 19:23:57 +0000</pubDate>
    <guid isPermaLink="false">https://kellytshibaka.wordpress.com/?p=1501#comment-2913</guid>
    <description>
      <![CDATA[ Yay! Praying for God's grace over you, your baby girl, and the family. (Look...my comment was longer than your post!) ]]>
    </description>
    <content:encoded>
      <![CDATA[ <p>Yay! Praying for God's grace over you, your baby girl, and the family. (Look;my comment was longer than your post!)</p> ]]>
    </content:encoded>
  </item>
  <item>
    <title>By: Susan Anton</title>
    <link>http://kellytshibaka.com/2014/02/19/2-days-til-baby-girl/comment-page-1/#comment-2895</link>
    <dc:creator>
      <![CDATA[ Susan Anton ]]>
    </dc:creator>
    <pubDate>Wed, 19 Feb 2014 15:12:04 +0000</pubDate>
    <guid isPermaLink="false">https://kellytshibaka.wordpress.com/?p=1501#comment-2895</guid>
    <description>
      <![CDATA[ Congratulations precious friend! I have been Thinking about you. Lots of love and prayers Your way! Love you, Susan &gt; ]]>
    </description>
    <content:encoded>
      <![CDATA[ <p>Congratulations precious friend! I have been Thinking about you. Lots of love and prayers Your way! </p> <p>Love you, Susan </p> <p>&gt;</p> ]]>
    </content:encoded>
  </item>
</channel>
</rss>
```



This XML file does not appear to have any style information associated with it. The document tree is shown below.

```
▼<rss xmlns:content="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/content/" xmlns:dc="http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/" xmlns:atom="http://www.w3.org/2005/Atom"
xmlns:sy="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/syndication/" xmlns:georss="http://www.georss.org/georss" xmlns:geo="http://www.w3.org/2003/01/geo/wgs84_pos#"
xmlns:media="http://search.yahoo.com/mrss/" version="2.0">
▼<channel>
  <title>Comments on: So Excited to Hold You Tomorrow!</title>
  <atom:link href="http://kellytshibaka.com/2014/02/20/so-excited-to-hold-you-tomorrow/feed/" rel="self" type="application/rss+xml"/>
  <link>http://kellytshibaka.com/2014/02/20/so-excited-to-hold-you-tomorrow/</link>
  <description>Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional</description>
  <lastBuildDate>Tue, 18 Mar 2014 17:09:03 +0000</lastBuildDate>
  <sy:updatePeriod>hourly</sy:updatePeriod>
  <sy:updateFrequency>1</sy:updateFrequency>
  <generator>http://wordpress.com/</generator>
</channel>
</rss>
```

This XML file does not appear to have any style information associated with it. The document tree is shown below.

```
▼<rss xmlns:content="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/content/" xmlns:dc="http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/" xmlns:atom="http://www.w3.org/2005/Atom"
xmlns:sy="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/syndication/" xmlns:georss="http://www.georss.org/georss" xmlns:geo="http://www.w3.org/2003/01/geo/wgs84_pos#"
xmlns:media="http://search.yahoo.com/mrss/" version="2.0">
▼<channel>
  <title>Comments on: Hope</title>
  <atom:link href="http://kellytshibaka.com/2014/02/20/hope/feed/" rel="self" type="application/rss+xml"/>
  <link>http://kellytshibaka.com/2014/02/20/hope/</link>
  <description>Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional</description>
  <lastBuildDate>Tue, 18 Mar 2014 17:09:03 +0000</lastBuildDate>
  <sy:updatePeriod>hourly</sy:updatePeriod>
  <sy:updateFrequency>1</sy:updateFrequency>
  <generator>http://wordpress.com/</generator>
</channel>
</rss>
```

This XML file does not appear to have any style information associated with it. The document tree is shown below.

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8" ?>
<rss xmlns:content="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/content/" xmlns:dc="http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/" xmlns:atom="http://www.w3.org/2005/Atom"
xmlns:sy="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/syndication/" xmlns:georss="http://www.georss.org/georss" xmlns:geo="http://www.w3.org/2003/01/geo/wgs84_pos#"
xmlns:media="http://search.yahoo.com/mrss/" version="2.0">
  <channel>
    <title>Comments on: This Made Me Laugh!</title>
    <atom:link href="http://kellytshibaka.com/2014/02/24/this-made-me-laugh/feed/" rel="self" type="application/rss+xml"/>
    <link>
      http://kellytshibaka.com/2014/02/24/this-made-me-laugh/
    </link>
    <description>
      Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional
    </description>
    <lastBuildDate>Tue, 18 Mar 2014 17:09:03 +0000</lastBuildDate>
    <sy:updatePeriod>hourly</sy:updatePeriod>
    <sy:updateFrequency>1</sy:updateFrequency>
    <generator>http://wordpress.com/</generator>
  </channel>
</rss>
```

This XML file does not appear to have any style information associated with it. The document tree is shown below.

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8" ?>
<rss xmlns:content="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/content/" xmlns:dc="http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/" xmlns:atom="http://www.w3.org/2005/Atom"
xmlns:sy="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/syndication/" xmlns:georss="http://www.georss.org/georss" xmlns:geo="http://www.w3.org/2003/01/geo/wgs84_pos#"
xmlns:media="http://search.yahoo.com/mrss/" version="2.0">
  <channel>
    <title>Comments on: Siah’s 2014 goals</title>
    <atom:link href="http://kellytshibaka.com/2014/02/25/siahs-2014-goals/feed/" rel="self" type="application/rss+xml"/>
    <link>
      http://kellytshibaka.com/2014/02/25/siahs-2014-goals/
    </link>
    <description>
      Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional
    </description>
    <lastBuildDate>Tue, 18 Mar 2014 17:09:03 +0000</lastBuildDate>
    <sy:updatePeriod>hourly</sy:updatePeriod>
    <sy:updateFrequency>1</sy:updateFrequency>
    <generator>http://wordpress.com/</generator>
  </channel>
</rss>
```





# Kelly Tshibaka ~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional

Search...

Go



18  
Friday  
Apr 2014

## I'm Not the World's Greatest Cook

POSTED BY KTSHIBAKA IN PARENT, RAISING KIDS

LEAVE A COMMENT

I can bake up a storm. I can bust out Moroccan basilza and fresh apple crumble like nobody's business. And I can also set off the fire alarms on a semi-regular basis. What can I say? I'm not the world's greatest cook. But I'm cool with it.

Tags  
Parenting



Twitter Facebook Email LinkedIn More SHARE THIS

338 0

Previous post

Next post

### LEAVE A REPLY

Notify me of follow-up comments via email.  
Notify me of new posts via email,

Post Comment

Search...

Go

#### FOLLOW BLOG

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 957 other followers

Enter your email address

Follow

#### RECENT POSTS

- Check Where Credit's Due
- Disappointments in Ministry
- Awkward Moment of the Day
- Happy Easter!
- I'm Not the World's Greatest Cook

#### ARCHIVES

- April 2014
- March 2014
- February 2014
- January 2014
- December 2013
- November 2013
- October 2013
- September 2013
- August 2013
- June 2013
- May 2013
- April 2013
- March 2013
- February 2013
- January 2013
- December 2012
- November 2012
- October 2012
- September 2012
- August 2012
- July 2012
- June 2012
- May 2012
- April 2012
- March 2012
- January 2012
- December 2011
- November 2011
- October 2011
- September 2011
- August 2011
- July 2011
- June 2011
- April 2011
- March 2011
- February 2011
- January 2011
- December 2010
- November 2010
- October 2010
- September 2010
- August 2010
- July 2010
- June 2010
- May 2010
- April 2010
- March 2010
- February 2010
- January 2010
- December 2009
- November 2009
- October 2009
- September 2009
- August 2009
- July 2009
- June 2009
- May 2009
- March 2009
- February 2009
- January 2009
- December 2008
- November 2008
- October 2008
- September 2008
- August 2008
- July 2008
- June 2008
- May 2008
- April 2008
- March 2008
- February 2008
- January 2008
- December 2007
- November 2007
- October 2007
- September 2007
- August 2007
- July 2007
- June 2007
- May 2007
- April 2007
- March 2007
- February 2007
- January 2007

#### CATEGORIES

Select Category



17  
Thursday  
Apr 2014

## A Psalm I Wrote in the Caves where David Hid from Saul

POSTED BY KATHARINE IN Uncategorized

2 COMMENTS

I sing my praises to You, Lord

Yes I sing for Your faithfulness  
A faithfulness unheard of  
Only dreamed of by those who don't know You  
Who is like You, Lord?  
None can deliver like You  
You comfort me and fight for me  
at the same time  
You promised victory over those who tried to  
destroy me with their tongues  
And You did it  
You did what You said  
When I couldn't see  
You said "Trust in Me  
I See  
The perspective is different from here."  
You led me and guided me  
You never left me  
Though it hurt  
I screamed, I sobbed, I was afraid  
"I will deliver you. I will protect you.  
I will shut the mouths of the lions.  
Believe  
And see  
See differently!"  
You turned the tables  
against my enemies  
Against those who sought to destroy me  
Your justice prevailed  
Your truth saved me  
You cleaned my name and redeemed it  
You spared me from shame  
There was nothing I could do to save myself  
My efforts were to no avail  
I labored to defend myself  
But it was pointless  
I cannot trust in my own strength  
I cannot trust in people, friends, or my performance  
to protect me  
My trust is in You alone  
You alone saved me  
delivered me  
guided me  
protected me  
Because You love me  
My freedom is attributable to You alone  
All praise and honor and glory to You  
It ended up better than I ever could imagine  
Because of You  
Every word of Your Word came true  
You said it, I believed it  
You brought it to pass  
When everything else changed,  
all that was true became false,  
the ground fell out from under me,  
and friends turned against me  
You were the SAME  
You were TRUE  
You were MY ROCK  
You were MY FRIEND  
And I sing a new song to the One True God,  
my Rock, my Friend, whose faithfulness never ends!

Twitter Facebook Email LinkedIn More Saved items

» More

« Previous post

Next post »

2

THOUGHTS ON "A PSALM I WROTE IN THE CAVES WHERE DAVID HID FROM SAUL"



S.Kelly said:

Apr 17, 2014 at 12:00 pm

Oh Kelly, this is SO beautiful. Thank you for sharing!

REPLY



Isaac Hoyet said:

Apr 17, 2014 at 12:17 pm

Moving. Grace today.

REPLY

LEAVE A REPLY

Enter your comment here...

4

Search... Go

FOLLOW BLOG

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join over other followers

Enter your email address

Follow

RECENT POSTS

- Check Where Credit's Due
- Disappointments in Ministry
- Awkward Moment of the Day
- Happy Easter!
- I'm Not the World's Greatest Cook

ARCHIVES

- April 2014
- March 2014
- February 2014
- January 2014
- December 2013
- November 2013
- October 2013
- September 2013
- August 2013
- June 2013
- May 2013
- April 2013
- March 2013
- February 2013
- January 2013
- December 2012
- November 2012
- October 2012
- September 2012
- August 2012
- July 2012
- June 2012
- May 2012
- April 2012
- March 2012
- January 2012
- December 2011
- November 2011
- October 2011
- September 2011
- August 2011
- July 2011
- June 2011
- May 2011
- April 2011
- March 2011
- February 2011
- January 2011
- December 2010
- November 2010
- October 2010
- September 2010
- August 2010
- July 2010
- June 2010
- May 2010
- April 2010
- March 2010
- February 2010
- January 2010
- December 2009
- November 2009
- October 2009
- September 2009
- August 2009
- July 2009
- June 2009
- May 2009
- April 2009
- March 2009
- February 2009
- January 2009
- December 2008
- November 2008
- October 2008
- September 2008
- August 2008
- July 2008
- June 2008
- May 2008
- April 2008
- March 2008
- February 2008
- January 2008
- December 2007
- November 2007
- October 2007
- September 2007
- August 2007
- July 2007
- June 2007
- May 2007
- April 2007
- March 2007
- February 2007
- January 2007

CATEGORIES

Select Category

# Kelly Tshibaka ~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional

Search...

Go



21  
Monday  
April 2014

## Awkward Moment of the Day

POSTED BY KTSHIBAKA IN PARENTING 100 STORIES

LEAVE A COMMENT

Siah shouting at the front door, "Mom! Dad! There's a creepy guy at the door and he looks like President Obama!"

Tags  
Parenting

[Twitter](#) [Facebook](#) [Email](#) [LinkedIn](#) [More](#) [Save this story](#)

... 330P (1)

Previous post

Next post

LEAVE A REPLY

Enter your comment here...

Search...

Go

FOLLOW BLOG

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join over other followers

Enter your email address

Follow

RECENT POSTS

- Check Where Credit's Due
- Disappointments in Ministry
- Awkward Moment of the Day
- Happy Easter!
- I'm Not the World's Greatest Cook

ARCHIVES

- April 2014
- March 2014
- February 2014
- January 2014
- December 2013
- November 2013
- October 2013
- September 2013
- August 2013
- June 2013
- May 2013
- April 2013
- March 2013
- February 2013
- January 2013
- December 2012
- November 2012
- October 2012
- September 2012
- August 2012
- July 2012
- June 2012
- May 2012
- April 2012
- March 2012
- January 2012
- December 2011
- November 2011
- October 2011
- September 2011
- August 2011
- July 2011
- April 2011
- March 2011
- February 2011
- January 2011
- December 2010
- November 2010
- October 2010
- September 2010
- August 2010
- July 2010
- June 2010
- May 2010
- April 2010
- March 2010
- February 2010
- January 2010
- December 2009
- November 2009
- October 2009
- September 2009
- August 2009
- July 2009
- June 2009
- May 2009
- March 2009
- February 2009
- January 2009
- December 2008
- November 2008
- October 2008
- September 2008
- August 2008
- July 2008
- June 2008
- May 2008
- April 2008
- March 2008
- February 2008
- January 2008
- December 2007
- November 2007
- October 2007
- September 2007
- August 2007
- July 2007
- June 2007
- May 2007
- April 2007
- March 2007
- February 2007
- January 2007

CATEGORIES

Select Category



# Kelly Tshibaka ~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional

Search...

Go



22  
Tuesday  
April 2014

## Disappointments in Ministry

POSTED BY KTSHIBAKA IN LEADERSHIP, MINISTRY

1 Comment

For some reason the disappointments and pains of ministry have a way of affecting us more than the successes. Just like how we are more cognizant of Judas's betrayal than John's devotion, it can be so easy to let disappointments like this week overshadow successes like last week. We may have lost a battle, but we are still committed to the war. That's the key! Reminds me of that great rhetorical question in the Hobbit: Desolation of Smaug – *when did we let evil become more powerful than us?* We can't and we won't.

It's so hard when you want something good for others more than they want it for themselves. I've found that to be one of the most challenging and heartbreaking parts of ministry. Here are two things I've found that help: 1) meditating on the times when Jesus has felt about me the way I feel about the person(s) who disappointed me, and 2) keeping a list of successes that I can go back to remind myself of the good I did.

Your success in ministry will be determined by whether you are consumed with the pain of the past or the potential of the future. A list of successes helps me to stay focused on what matters (for the joy set before Him...)

     More   [Share this:](#)

3388 / 0

[← Previous post](#)

[Next post →](#)

1

### THOUGHT ON "DISAPPOINTMENTS IN MINISTRY"


 Nancy Maynard said:

April 22, 2014 at 7:11 AM

I needed to hear this today. Thank you so much for sharing.

REPLY

LEAVE A REPLY



Email

(A 300x50 pixel profile picture)

Name

Website

☐ Notify me of follow-up comments via email.

☐ Notify me of new posts via email.

Post Comment

Search...

Go

#### FOLLOW BLOG

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join over other followers

Follow

#### RECENT POSTS

- [Cried Where Credit's Due](#)
- [Disappointments in Ministry](#)
- [Awkward Moment of the Day](#)
- [Happy Easter!](#)
- [I'm Not the World's Greatest Cook](#)

#### ARCHIVES

- [April 2014](#)
- [March 2014](#)
- [February 2014](#)
- [January 2014](#)
- [December 2013](#)
- [November 2013](#)
- [October 2013](#)
- [September 2013](#)
- [August 2013](#)
- [June 2013](#)
- [May 2013](#)
- [April 2013](#)
- [March 2013](#)
- [February 2013](#)
- [January 2013](#)
- [December 2012](#)
- [November 2012](#)
- [October 2012](#)
- [September 2012](#)
- [August 2012](#)
- [July 2012](#)
- [June 2012](#)
- [May 2012](#)
- [April 2012](#)
- [March 2012](#)
- [January 2012](#)
- [December 2011](#)
- [November 2011](#)
- [October 2011](#)
- [September 2011](#)
- [August 2011](#)
- [July 2011](#)
- [April 2011](#)
- [March 2011](#)
- [February 2011](#)
- [January 2011](#)
- [December 2010](#)
- [November 2010](#)
- [October 2010](#)
- [September 2010](#)
- [August 2010](#)
- [July 2010](#)
- [June 2010](#)
- [May 2010](#)
- [April 2010](#)
- [March 2010](#)
- [February 2010](#)
- [January 2010](#)
- [December 2009](#)
- [November 2009](#)
- [October 2009](#)
- [September 2009](#)
- [August 2009](#)
- [July 2009](#)
- [June 2009](#)
- [May 2009](#)
- [March 2009](#)
- [February 2009](#)
- [January 2009](#)
- [December 2008](#)
- [November 2008](#)
- [October 2008](#)
- [September 2008](#)
- [August 2008](#)
- [July 2008](#)
- [June 2008](#)
- [May 2008](#)
- [April 2008](#)
- [March 2008](#)
- [February 2008](#)
- [January 2008](#)
- [December 2007](#)
- [November 2007](#)
- [October 2007](#)
- [September 2007](#)
- [August 2007](#)
- [July 2007](#)
- [June 2007](#)
- [May 2007](#)
- [April 2007](#)
- [March 2007](#)
- [February 2007](#)
- [January 2007](#)

#### CATEGORIES

Select Category ▼



19  
Saturday  
Apr 2014

Happy Easter!

POSTED BY KTSHBKA IN KID STORIES

1 COMMENT

Tags  
Parenting



Twitter Facebook Email LinkedIn More Share this

Subscribe

Previous post

Next post

1

THOUGHT ON "HAPPY EASTER!"



Susan Anton says:

APRIL 20, 2014 AT 11:00 AM

Is it just me or do I see Denali par2??? Happy Easter to you and your precious family!

Love you!

>

REPLY

LEAVE A REPLY

Email

(Address never made public)

Name

Website

Notify me of follow-up comments via email.

Notify me of new posts via email.

Post Comment

Search...

Go

FOLLOW BLOG

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 957 other followers

Enter your email address

Follow

RECENT POSTS

- Check Where Credit's Due
- Disappointments in Ministry
- Awkward Moment of the Day
- Happy Easter!
- I'm Not the World's Greatest Cook

ARCHIVES

- April 2014
- March 2014
- February 2014
- January 2014
- December 2013
- November 2013
- October 2013
- September 2013
- August 2013
- June 2013
- May 2013
- April 2013
- March 2013
- February 2013
- January 2013
- December 2012
- November 2012
- October 2012
- September 2012
- August 2012
- July 2012
- June 2012
- May 2012
- April 2012
- March 2012
- January 2012
- December 2011
- November 2011
- October 2011
- September 2011
- August 2011
- July 2011
- April 2011
- March 2011
- February 2011
- January 2011
- December 2010
- November 2010
- October 2010
- September 2010
- August 2010
- July 2010
- June 2010
- May 2010
- April 2010
- March 2010
- February 2010
- January 2010
- December 2009
- November 2009
- October 2009
- September 2009
- August 2009
- July 2009
- June 2009
- May 2009
- March 2009
- February 2009
- January 2009
- December 2008
- November 2008
- October 2008
- September 2008
- August 2008
- July 2008
- June 2008
- May 2008
- April 2008
- March 2008
- February 2008
- January 2008
- December 2007
- November 2007
- October 2007
- September 2007
- August 2007
- July 2007
- June 2007
- May 2007
- April 2007
- March 2007
- February 2007
- January 2007

CATEGORIES

Select Category

# Kelly Tshibaka ~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional

Search...

Go



27  
Sunday  
April 2014

## Credit Where Credit's Due

POSTED BY KTSHIBAKA IN KID STORIES

LEAVE A COMMENT

"Elora has got good looks. She inherited them from me. Of course mommy and daddy will try to take credit." ~Button

Tags  
Parenting

[Twitter](#) [Facebook](#) [Email](#) [LinkedIn](#) [More](#) [Save this](#)

... 33P 11

Previous post

LEAVE A REPLY

Enter your comment here...

Search... Go

FOLLOW BLOG  
Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join our other followers

Enter your email address

Follow

RECENT POSTS

- Credit Where Credit's Due
- Disappointments in Ministry
- Awkward Moment of the Day
- Happy Easter!
- I'm Not the World's Greatest Cook

ARCHIVES

- April 2014
- March 2014
- February 2014
- January 2014
- December 2013
- November 2013
- October 2013
- September 2013
- August 2013
- June 2013
- May 2013
- April 2013
- March 2013
- February 2013
- January 2013
- December 2012
- November 2012
- October 2012
- September 2012
- August 2012
- July 2012
- June 2012
- May 2012
- April 2012
- March 2012
- January 2012
- December 2011
- November 2011
- October 2011
- September 2011
- August 2011
- July 2011
- April 2011
- March 2011
- February 2011
- January 2011
- December 2010
- November 2010
- October 2010
- September 2010
- August 2010
- July 2010
- June 2010
- May 2010
- April 2010
- March 2010
- February 2010
- January 2010
- December 2009
- November 2009
- October 2009
- September 2009
- August 2009
- July 2009
- June 2009
- May 2009
- March 2009
- February 2009
- January 2009
- December 2008
- November 2008
- October 2008
- September 2008
- August 2008
- July 2008
- June 2008
- May 2008
- April 2008
- March 2008
- February 2008
- January 2008
- December 2007
- November 2007
- October 2007
- September 2007
- August 2007
- July 2007
- June 2007
- May 2007
- April 2007
- March 2007
- February 2007
- January 2007

CATEGORIES

Select Category

- [About](#)
- [Resources](#)
- [Speaking](#)

## Kelly Tshibaka

~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional

Search:



## Mushrooms

[22 Monday Sep 2014](#)

Posted by [kushibaka](#) in [Uncategorized](#)

≈ [1 Comment](#)

The kids and I were out walking around the neighborhood. We found a lot of wild mushrooms, but decided against picking them to eat since we weren't sure whether they were edible. As Siah and I were walking home, he mused, "Mama, I think God sends an angel down to pick all the mushrooms people don't pick so they don't go to waste and they can eat them in Heaven."

"That's a great theory, Siah. But we want to be careful about developing theories into theology apart from a Bible verse. Make sure you have a Bible verse to support your ideas before you run with them, otherwise we can get ourselves into trouble. So, do you have a Bible verse that supports your idea that the angels pick mushrooms so Heaven can eat them?"

I knew he wouldn't — first, there are no angels-picking-mushrooms verses, and second, I was thinking of things like how God does not sleep and there is no marriage in Heaven, and so we can infer that life in Heaven is very different than life here.

After thinking for a very short bit, Siah smiled and said, "Yep! In the Bible it says that there's going to be a great wedding feast in Heaven, and there's going to need to be food at the wedding. So that means there's food in Heaven, which means there's mushrooms in Heaven. And where are they going to get the mushrooms from? I bet it's from here — from all these mushrooms the people aren't using!"

I was amazed! "Siah, you have a really great point! And you've changed my thinking about this. I bet there ARE mushrooms in Heaven, and it's possible that God has angels pick those mushrooms!"

[About these ads](#)

Share this:

- [Click to share on Twitter](#)
- [Share on Facebook](#)
- [Click to email this to a friend](#)
- [Click to share on LinkedIn](#)
- [More](#)
- 

Like this:

Like Loading...

## Related

## Post navigation

[← Previous post](#) [Next post →](#)

## 1 thought on “Mushrooms”



[Isaac Hovet](#) said:

[September 22, 2014 at 12:10 pm](#)

Amazing!

jfb BLOG: [\\*www.isaachovet.com](#) \* CHURCH: [\\*www.cg4.tv](#) \* EQ: [\\*www.tamaroundchurch.com](#) \* LIFE: [\\*www.facebook.com/ihovet](#) \* TWEETING: [\\*www.twitter.com/isaachovet](#) \*

[Reply](#)

## Leave a Reply

Enter your comment here...

Search:

## Follow Blog

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 1,026 other followers

## Recent Posts

- [Heavy Teacher](#)
- [Sword in the Sheath](#)
- [Mushrooms](#)
- [Credit Where Credit's Due](#)
- [Disappointments in Ministry](#)

## Archives

- [October 2014](#)
- [September 2014](#)
- [April 2014](#)
- [March 2014](#)
- [February 2014](#)
- [January 2014](#)
- [December 2013](#)
- [November 2013](#)
- [October 2013](#)
- [September 2013](#)
- [August 2013](#)
- [June 2013](#)
- [May 2013](#)
- [April 2013](#)
- [March 2013](#)
- [February 2013](#)
- [January 2013](#)
- [December 2012](#)
- [November 2012](#)
- [October 2012](#)
- [September 2012](#)
- [August 2012](#)
- [July 2012](#)
- [June 2012](#)
- [May 2012](#)
- [April 2012](#)
- [March 2012](#)
- [January 2012](#)
- [December 2011](#)
- [November 2011](#)
- [October 2011](#)
- [September 2011](#)
- [August 2011](#)
- [July 2011](#)
- [April 2011](#)
- [March 2011](#)
- [February 2011](#)
- [January 2011](#)
- [December 2010](#)
- [November 2010](#)
- [October 2010](#)
- [September 2010](#)
- [August 2010](#)
- [July 2010](#)
- [June 2010](#)
- [May 2010](#)
- [April 2010](#)
- [March 2010](#)
- [February 2010](#)
- [January 2010](#)
- [December 2009](#)
- [November 2009](#)
- [October 2009](#)
- [September 2009](#)
- [August 2009](#)
- [July 2009](#)
- [June 2009](#)
- [May 2009](#)
- [March 2009](#)
- [February 2009](#)
- [January 2009](#)
- [December 2008](#)
- [November 2008](#)
- [October 2008](#)
- [September 2008](#)
- [August 2008](#)
- [July 2008](#)
- [June 2008](#)
- [May 2008](#)
- [April 2008](#)
- [March 2008](#)
- [February 2008](#)
- [January 2008](#)
- [December 2007](#)
- [November 2007](#)
- [October 2007](#)
- [September 2007](#)
- [August 2007](#)
- [July 2007](#)
- [June 2007](#)
- [May 2007](#)
- [April 2007](#)
- [March 2007](#)
- [February 2007](#)
- [January 2007](#)

## Categories

Select Category

[Blog at WordPress.com.](#) [The Chateau Theme.](#)

[Follow](#)

## Follow “Kelly Tshibaka”

Get every new post delivered to your Inbox.

Join 1,026 other followers

[Powered by WordPress.com](#)

%d bloggers like this:



- [About](#)
- [Resources](#)
- [Speaking](#)

## Kelly Tshibaka

### ~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional

Search:



## Heavy Teacher

[09 Thursday Oct 2014](#)

Posted by [kushibaka](#) in [Uncategorized](#)

≈ [1 Comment](#)

Slah: "I think my teacher is trying to lose weight."

Mr: "Why? Is she heavy?"

Slah, totally straight faced: "I don't know. I've never tried to pick her up."

[About these ads](#)

#### Share this:

- [Click to share on Twitter](#)
- [Share on Facebook](#)
- [Click to email this to a friend](#)
- [Click to share on LinkedIn](#)
- [More](#)
- 

#### Like this:

Like Loading...

#### Related

### Post navigation

[← Previous post](#)

#### 1 thought on "Heavy Teacher"

1.  [Kathy](#) said:

[October 18, 2014 at 12:48 am](#)

harin timee tlaaragt gedeg yostol almshigtai. fitness, aerobic ene tereed yavahar tuushai uldsen amdrallinha turshid l yavna gej tootsoolj ehlehgui bol dund ni sastaad tasalbal yostoi baiksaasaa iluu dordono geech.mini bie heviin jingese bas l 15kg iluu. namhan bund ene bol suire! l gesen ug. odoonoos harin usan d seletteer hicheeldeg yun bilu gesen bodol turj bga. her zereg ur dun ughu esehig medehgui l yun. ta bubend sana onoo balval huvaaltsaara! :0

[Reply](#)

#### Leave a Reply

Enter your comment here...

Search:

### Follow Blog

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 1,026 other followers

### Recent Posts

- [Heavy Teacher](#)
- [Sword in the Sheath](#)
- [Mushrooms](#)
- [Credit Where Credit's Due](#)
- [Disappointments in Ministry](#)

### Archives

- [October 2014](#)
- [September 2014](#)
- [April 2014](#)
- [March 2014](#)
- [February 2014](#)
- [January 2014](#)
- [December 2013](#)
- [November 2013](#)
- [October 2013](#)
- [September 2013](#)
- [August 2013](#)
- [June 2013](#)
- [May 2013](#)
- [April 2013](#)
- [March 2013](#)
- [February 2013](#)
- [January 2013](#)
- [December 2012](#)
- [November 2012](#)
- [October 2012](#)
- [September 2012](#)
- [August 2012](#)
- [July 2012](#)
- [June 2012](#)
- [May 2012](#)
- [April 2012](#)
- [March 2012](#)
- [January 2012](#)
- [December 2011](#)
- [November 2011](#)
- [October 2011](#)
- [September 2011](#)
- [August 2011](#)
- [July 2011](#)
- [April 2011](#)
- [March 2011](#)
- [February 2011](#)
- [January 2011](#)
- [December 2010](#)
- [November 2010](#)
- [October 2010](#)
- [September 2010](#)
- [August 2010](#)
- [July 2010](#)
- [June 2010](#)
- [May 2010](#)
- [April 2010](#)
- [March 2010](#)
- [February 2010](#)
- [January 2010](#)
- [December 2009](#)
- [November 2009](#)
- [October 2009](#)
- [September 2009](#)
- [August 2009](#)
- [July 2009](#)
- [June 2009](#)
- [May 2009](#)
- [March 2009](#)
- [February 2009](#)
- [January 2009](#)
- [December 2008](#)
- [November 2008](#)
- [October 2008](#)
- [September 2008](#)
- [August 2008](#)
- [July 2008](#)
- [June 2008](#)
- [May 2008](#)
- [April 2008](#)
- [March 2008](#)
- [February 2008](#)
- [January 2008](#)
- [December 2007](#)
- [November 2007](#)
- [October 2007](#)
- [September 2007](#)
- [August 2007](#)
- [July 2007](#)
- [June 2007](#)
- [May 2007](#)
- [April 2007](#)
- [March 2007](#)
- [February 2007](#)
- [January 2007](#)

### Categories

▼

[Create a free website or blog at WordPress.com - The Chateau Theme.](#)

[Follow](#)

#### Follow "Kelly Tshibaka"

Get every new post delivered to your Inbox.

Join 1,026 other followers

[Build a website with WordPress.com](#)

%d bloggers like this:

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8" ?>
<rss xmlns:content="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/content/" xmlns:dc="http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/" xmlns:atom="http://www.w3.org/2005/Atom"
xmlns:sy="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/syndication/" xmlns:georss="http://www.georss.org/georss" xmlns:geo="http://www.w3.org/2003/01/geo/wgs84_pos#"
xmlns:media="http://search.yahoo.com/mrss/" version="2.0">
  <channel>
    <title>Comments on: Sometimes I think I'm in charge...</title>
    <atom:link href="http://kellytshibaka.com/2014/03/18/sometimes-i-think-im-in-charge/feed/" rel="self" type="application/rss+xml"/>
    <link>
      http://kellytshibaka.com/2014/03/18/sometimes-i-think-im-in-charge/
    </link>
    <description>
      Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional
    </description>
    <lastBuildDate>Sat, 18 Oct 2014 04:48:15 +0000</lastBuildDate>
    <sy:updatePeriod>hourly</sy:updatePeriod>
    <sy:updateFrequency>1</sy:updateFrequency>
    <generator>http://wordpress.com/</generator>
    <item>
      <title>By: Lindsay</title>
      <link>
        http://kellytshibaka.com/2014/03/18/sometimes-i-think-im-in-charge/comment-page-1/#comment-7514
      </link>
      <dc:creator>
        <![CDATA[ Lindsay ]]>
      </dc:creator>
      <pubDate>Tue, 18 Mar 2014 17:09:03 +0000</pubDate>
      <guid isPermaLink="false">
        http://kellytshibaka.wordpress.com/?p=1514#comment-7514
      </guid>
      <description>
        <![CDATA[
          Hahahaha! Wait, that's not as funny when it'll probably happen in my house tonight too....it's good to see it with eyes of humor, though.
          :-)
        ]]>
      </description>
      <content:encoded>
        <![CDATA[
          <p>Hahahaha! Wait, that's not as funny when it'll probably happen in my house tonight too;.it's good to see it with eyes of
          humor, though. <span class='wp-smiley wp-emoji wp-emoji-smile' title=':-) '>:-)</span></p>
        ]]>
      </content:encoded>
    </item>
    <item>
      <title>By: Tim Mossholder</title>
      <link>
        http://kellytshibaka.com/2014/03/18/sometimes-i-think-im-in-charge/comment-page-1/#comment-7499
      </link>
      <dc:creator>
        <![CDATA[ Tim Mossholder ]]>
      </dc:creator>
      <pubDate>Tue, 18 Mar 2014 14:50:55 +0000</pubDate>
      <guid isPermaLink="false">
        http://kellytshibaka.wordpress.com/?p=1514#comment-7499
      </guid>
      <description>
        <![CDATA[ Absolutely classic! ]]>
      </description>
      <content:encoded>
        <![CDATA[ <p>Absolutely classic!</p> ]]>
      </content:encoded>
    </item>
  </channel>
</rss>
```

This XML file does not appear to have any style information associated with it. The document tree is shown below.

```
▼<rss xmlns:content="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/content/" xmlns:dc="http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/" xmlns:atom="http://www.w3.org/2005/Atom"
xmlns:sy="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/syndication/" xmlns:georss="http://www.georss.org/georss" xmlns:geo="http://www.w3.org/2003/01/geo/wgs84_pos#"
xmlns:media="http://search.yahoo.com/mrss/" version="2.0">
▼<channel>
  <title>Comments on: Worth</title>
  <atom:link href="http://kellytshibaka.com/2014/02/10/worth/feed/" rel="self" type="application/rss+xml"/>
  <link>http://kellytshibaka.com/2014/02/10/worth/</link>
▼<description>
  Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional
</description>
<lastBuildDate>Sat, 18 Oct 2014 04:48:15 +0000</lastBuildDate>
<sy:updatePeriod>hourly</sy:updatePeriod>
<sy:updateFrequency>1</sy:updateFrequency>
  <generator>http://wordpress.com/</generator>
</channel>
</rss>
```

This XML file does not appear to have any style information associated with it. The document tree is shown below.

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8" ?>
<rss xmlns:content="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/content/" xmlns:dc="http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/" xmlns:atom="http://www.w3.org/2005/Atom"
xmlns:sy="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/syndication/" xmlns:georss="http://www.georss.org/georss" xmlns:geo="http://www.w3.org/2003/01/geo/wgs84_pos#"
xmlns:media="http://search.yahoo.com/mrss/" version="2.0">
  <channel>
    <title>Comments on: Clay or Potsherd?</title>
    <atom:link href="http://kellytshibaka.com/2014/02/18/clay-or-potsherd/feed/" rel="self" type="application/rss+xml"/>
    <link>http://kellytshibaka.com/2014/02/18/clay-or-potsherd/</link>
    <description>Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional</description>
    <lastBuildDate>Sat, 18 Oct 2014 04:48:15 +0000</lastBuildDate>
    <sy:updatePeriod>hourly</sy:updatePeriod>
    <sy:updateFrequency>1</sy:updateFrequency>
    <generator>http://wordpress.com/</generator>
  </channel>
</rss>
```



This XML file does not appear to have any style information associated with it. The document tree is shown below.

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8" ?>
<rss xmlns:content="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/content/" xmlns:dc="http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/" xmlns:atom="http://www.w3.org/2005/Atom"
xmlns:sy="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/syndication/" xmlns:georss="http://www.georss.org/georss" xmlns:geo="http://www.w3.org/2003/01/geo/wgs84_pos#"
xmlns:media="http://search.yahoo.com/mrss/" version="2.0">
  <channel>
    <title>Comments on: $120 Appetizer</title>
    <atom:link href="http://kellytshibaka.com/2013/11/01/120-appetizer/feed/" rel="self" type="application/rss+xml"/>
    <link>http://kellytshibaka.com/2013/11/01/120-appetizer/</link>
    <description>Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional</description>
    <lastBuildDate>Sat, 18 Oct 2014 04:48:15 +0000</lastBuildDate>
    <sy:updatePeriod>hourly</sy:updatePeriod>
    <sy:updateFrequency>1</sy:updateFrequency>
    <generator>http://wordpress.com/</generator>
  </channel>
</rss>
```

This XML file does not appear to have any style information associated with it. The document tree is shown below.

```
▼<rss xmlns:content="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/content/" xmlns:dc="http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/" xmlns:atom="http://www.w3.org/2005/Atom"
xmlns:sy="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/syndication/" xmlns:georss="http://www.georss.org/georss" xmlns:geo="http://www.w3.org/2003/01/geo/wgs84_pos#"
xmlns:media="http://search.yahoo.com/mrss/" version="2.0">
▼<channel>
  <title>Comments on: Seeing Jesus in the Autumn</title>
  <atom:link href="http://kellytshibaka.com/2013/11/03/seeing-jesus-in-the-autumn/feed/" rel="self" type="application/rss+xml"/>
▼<link>
  http://kellytshibaka.com/2013/11/03/seeing-jesus-in-the-autumn/
</link>
▼<description>
  Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional
</description>
<lastBuildDate>Sat, 18 Oct 2014 04:48:15 +0000</lastBuildDate>
<sy:updatePeriod>hourly</sy:updatePeriod>
<sy:updateFrequency>1</sy:updateFrequency>
<generator>http://wordpress.com/</generator>
</channel>
</rss>
```

This XML file does not appear to have any style information associated with it. The document tree is shown below.

```
▼<rss xmlns:content="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/content/" xmlns:dc="http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/" xmlns:atom="http://www.w3.org/2005/Atom"
xmlns:sy="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/syndication/" xmlns:georss="http://www.georss.org/georss" xmlns:geo="http://www.w3.org/2003/01/geo/wgs84_pos#"
xmlns:media="http://search.yahoo.com/mrss/" version="2.0">
▼<channel>
  <title>Comments on: I'm Not the World's Greatest Cook</title>
  <atom:link href="http://kellytshibaka.com/2014/04/18/im-not-the-worlds-greatest-cook/feed/" rel="self" type="application/rss+xml"/>
▼<link>
  http://kellytshibaka.com/2014/04/18/im-not-the-worlds-greatest-cook/
</link>
▼<description>
  Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional
</description>
<lastBuildDate>Sat, 18 Oct 2014 04:48:15 +0000</lastBuildDate>
<sy:updatePeriod>hourly</sy:updatePeriod>
<sy:updateFrequency>1</sy:updateFrequency>
<generator>http://wordpress.com/</generator>
</channel>
</rss>
```

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8" ?>
<rss xmlns:content="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/content/" xmlns:dc="http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/" xmlns:atom="http://www.w3.org/2005/Atom"
xmlns:sy="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/syndication/" xmlns:georss="http://www.georss.org/georss" xmlns:geo="http://www.w3.org/2003/01/geo/wgs84_pos#"
xmlns:media="http://search.yahoo.com/mrss/" version="2.0">
  <channel>
    <title>
      Comments on: A Psalm I Wrote in the Caves where David Hid from Saul
    </title>
    <atom:link href="http://kellytshibaka.com/2014/04/17/a-psalm-i-wrote-in-the-caves-where-david-hid-from-saul/feed/" rel="self" type="application/rss+xml"/>
    <link>
      http://kellytshibaka.com/2014/04/17/a-psalm-i-wrote-in-the-caves-where-david-hid-from-saul/
    </link>
    <description>
      Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional
    </description>
    <lastBuildDate>Sat, 18 Oct 2014 04:48:15 +0000</lastBuildDate>
    <sy:updatePeriod>hourly</sy:updatePeriod>
    <sy:updateFrequency>1</sy:updateFrequency>
    <generator>http://wordpress.com/</generator>
    <item>
      <title>By: S.Kelly</title>
      <link>
        http://kellytshibaka.com/2014/04/17/a-psalm-i-wrote-in-the-caves-where-david-hid-from-saul/comment-page-1/#comment-10649
      </link>
      <dc:creator>
        <![CDATA[ S.Kelly ]]>
      </dc:creator>
      <pubDate>Thu, 17 Apr 2014 13:23:32 +0000</pubDate>
      <guid isPermaLink="false">http://kellytshibaka.com/?p=1519#comment-10649</guid>
      <description>
        <![CDATA[
          Oh Kelly, this is SO beautiful. Thank you for sharing!
        ]]>
      </description>
      <content:encoded>
        <![CDATA[
          <p>Oh Kelly, this is SO beautiful. Thank you for sharing!</p>
        ]]>
      </content:encoded>
    </item>
    <item>
      <title>By: Isaac Hovet</title>
      <link>
        http://kellytshibaka.com/2014/04/17/a-psalm-i-wrote-in-the-caves-where-david-hid-from-saul/comment-page-1/#comment-10647
      </link>
      <dc:creator>
        <![CDATA[ Isaac Hovet ]]>
      </dc:creator>
      <pubDate>Thu, 17 Apr 2014 12:17:39 +0000</pubDate>
      <guid isPermaLink="false">http://kellytshibaka.com/?p=1519#comment-10647</guid>
      <description>
        <![CDATA[ Moving. Grace today. ]]>
      </description>
      <content:encoded>
        <![CDATA[ <p>Moving. Grace today.</p> ]]>
      </content:encoded>
    </item>
  </channel>
</rss>
```



This XML file does not appear to have any style information associated with it. The document tree is shown below.

```
▼<rss xmlns:content="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/content/" xmlns:dc="http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/" xmlns:atom="http://www.w3.org/2005/Atom"
xmlns:sy="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/syndication/" xmlns:georss="http://www.georss.org/georss" xmlns:geo="http://www.w3.org/2003/01/geo/wgs84_pos#"
xmlns:media="http://search.yahoo.com/mrss/" version="2.0">
▼<channel>
  <title>Comments on: Happy Easter!</title>
  <atom:link href="http://kellytshibaka.com/2014/04/19/happy-easter/feed/" rel="self" type="application/rss+xml"/>
  <link>http://kellytshibaka.com/2014/04/19/happy-easter/</link>
▼<description>
  Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional
</description>
<lastBuildDate>Sat, 18 Oct 2014 04:48:15 +0000</lastBuildDate>
<sy:updatePeriod>hourly</sy:updatePeriod>
<sy:updateFrequency>1</sy:updateFrequency>
<generator>http://wordpress.com/</generator>
▼<item>
  <title>By: Susan Anton</title>
  ▼<link>
    http://kellytshibaka.com/2014/04/19/happy-easter/comment-page-1/#comment-10974
  </link>
  ▼<dc:creator>
    <![CDATA[ Susan Anton ]]>
  </dc:creator>
  <pubDate>Sat, 19 Apr 2014 14:38:54 +0000</pubDate>
  ▼<guid isPermaLink="false">
    http://kellytshibaka.wordpress.com/?p=1526#comment-10974
  </guid>
  ▼<description>
    ▼<![CDATA[
      Is it just me or do I see Denali part2??! Happy Easter to you and your precious family! Love you! &gt;
    ]]>
  </description>
  ▼<content:encoded>
    ▼<![CDATA[
      <p>Is it just me or do I see Denali part2??! Happy Easter to you and your precious family! </p> <p>Love you! </p> <p>&gt;</p>
    ]]>
  </content:encoded>
</item>
</channel>
</rss>
```

This XML file does not appear to have any style information associated with it. The document tree is shown below.

```
▼<rss xmlns:content="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/content/" xmlns:dc="http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/" xmlns:atom="http://www.w3.org/2005/Atom"
xmlns:sy="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/syndication/" xmlns:georss="http://www.georss.org/georss" xmlns:geo="http://www.w3.org/2003/01/geo/wgs84_pos#"
xmlns:media="http://search.yahoo.com/mrss/" version="2.0">
▼<channel>
  <title>Comments on: Awkward Moment of the Day</title>
  <atom:link href="http://kellytshibaka.com/2014/04/21/awkward-moment-of-the-day/feed/" rel="self" type="application/rss+xml"/>
▼<link>
  http://kellytshibaka.com/2014/04/21/awkward-moment-of-the-day/
</link>
▼<description>
  Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional
</description>
<lastBuildDate>Sat, 18 Oct 2014 04:48:15 +0000</lastBuildDate>
<sy:updatePeriod>hourly</sy:updatePeriod>
<sy:updateFrequency>1</sy:updateFrequency>
<generator>http://wordpress.com/</generator>
</channel>
</rss>
```

This XML file does not appear to have any style information associated with it. The document tree is shown below.

```
▼<rss xmlns:content="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/content/" xmlns:dc="http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/" xmlns:atom="http://www.w3.org/2005/Atom"
xmlns:sy="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/syndication/" xmlns:georss="http://www.georss.org/georss" xmlns:geo="http://www.w3.org/2003/01/geo/wgs84_pos#"
xmlns:media="http://search.yahoo.com/mrss/" version="2.0">
▼<channel>
  <title>Comments on: Disappointments in Ministry</title>
  <atom:link href="http://kellytshibaka.com/2014/04/22/disappointments-in-ministry/feed/" rel="self" type="application/rss+xml"/>
  ▼<link>
    http://kellytshibaka.com/2014/04/22/disappointments-in-ministry/
  </link>
  ▼<description>
    Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional
  </description>
  <lastBuildDate>Sat, 18 Oct 2014 04:48:15 +0000</lastBuildDate>
  <sy:updatePeriod>hourly</sy:updatePeriod>
  <sy:updateFrequency>1</sy:updateFrequency>
  <generator>http://wordpress.com/</generator>
  ▼<item>
    <title>By: Nancy Maynard</title>
    ▼<link>
      http://kellytshibaka.com/2014/04/22/disappointments-in-ministry/comment-page-1/#comment-11430
    </link>
    ▼<dc:creator>
      <![CDATA[ Nancy Maynard ]]>
    </dc:creator>
    <pubDate>Tue, 22 Apr 2014 11:31:37 +0000</pubDate>
    <guid isPermaLink="false">http://kellytshibaka.com/?p=1530#comment-11430</guid>
    ▼<description>
      ▼<![CDATA[
        I needed to hear this today. Thank you so much for sharing.
      ]]>
    </description>
    ▼<content:encoded>
      ▼<![CDATA[
        <p>I needed to hear this today. Thank you so much for sharing.</p>
      ]]>
    </content:encoded>
  </item>
</channel>
</rss>
```

This XML file does not appear to have any style information associated with it. The document tree is shown below.

```
▼<rss xmlns:content="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/content/" xmlns:dc="http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/" xmlns:atom="http://www.w3.org/2005/Atom"
xmlns:sy="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/syndication/" xmlns:georss="http://www.georss.org/georss" xmlns:geo="http://www.w3.org/2003/01/geo/wgs84_pos#"
xmlns:media="http://search.yahoo.com/mrss/" version="2.0">
▼<channel>
  <title>Comments on: Credit Where Credit's Due</title>
  <atom:link href="http://kellytshibaka.com/2014/04/27/credit-where-credits-due/feed/" rel="self" type="application/rss+xml"/>
▼<link>
  http://kellytshibaka.com/2014/04/27/credit-where-credits-due/
</link>
▼<description>
  Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional
</description>
<lastBuildDate>Sat, 18 Oct 2014 04:48:15 +0000</lastBuildDate>
<sy:updatePeriod>hourly</sy:updatePeriod>
<sy:updateFrequency>1</sy:updateFrequency>
<generator>http://wordpress.com/</generator>
</channel>
</rss>
```







11  
Wednesday  
Feb 2015

## Principles for Helping Me Remain Open to Submitting to God's Plan for My Life

Posted by KTSHIBAKA in Uncategorized

= 1 Comment

My top life value is to follow Jesus with all my heart, including to listen and obey instantly and to trust Him (I'm currently really challenged in this area, but hey—I'm committed to this with all my heart, no matter how hard it is). If I summarized the principles, I think it would go something like:

1. If I think God has said/prompted me in a direction, I just go for it. I might be wrong, but I'd rather err on the side of faith than doubt. I figure God will honor that and clean up my messes if I heard wrong.
2. Act quickly once I've heard. The longer I sit on a word/prompting, the less likely I am to act on it.
3. Be accountable to others who are familiar with hearing God and seek wisdom in many counsors (who are Jesus followers)
4. Every word of the Lord has to be consistent with the Bible.
5. Know myself and who He has made me to be. I've benefitted from the Grip Birkman (you can order this test through churchsmart.com), professional coaching, knowing my spiritual gifts, and identifying my core values. This has helped me to know what to focus on and what not to. :)
6. I know the ways of the Kingdom often are upside down from the ways of the world (last shall be first, greatest is least, etc.). So I'm open to upside down ideas or thinking because that just might be exactly where God is.
7. Every day spent loving God and loving people is a day well spent.

SHARE THIS:



← 330 / 4

→ Previous post

1

### THOUGHT ON "PRINCIPLES FOR HELPING ME REMAIN OPEN TO SUBMITTING TO GOD'S PLAN FOR MY LIFE"



**Tim Monsholder** said:

February 22, 2015 at 12:18 PM

Thanks, Kelly! Just reposted these excellent reminders.

REPLY

LEAVE A REPLY

Enter your comment here...

Search...

Go

#### FOLLOW BLOG

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 1,495 other followers

What you would add is a

Follow

#### RECENT POSTS

- Principles for Helping Me Remain Open to Submitting to God's Plan for My Life
- Heavy Teacher
- Sword in the Sheath
- Mushrooms
- Credit Where Credit's Due

#### ARCHIVES

- February 2015
- October 2014
- September 2014
- April 2014
- March 2014
- February 2014
- January 2014
- December 2013
- November 2013
- October 2013
- September 2013
- August 2013
- June 2013
- May 2013
- April 2013
- March 2013
- February 2013
- January 2013
- December 2012
- November 2012
- October 2012
- September 2012
- August 2012
- July 2012
- June 2012
- May 2012
- April 2012
- March 2012
- January 2012
- December 2011
- November 2011
- October 2011
- September 2011
- August 2011
- July 2011
- April 2011
- March 2011
- February 2011
- January 2011
- December 2010
- November 2010
- October 2010
- September 2010
- August 2010
- July 2010
- June 2010
- May 2010
- April 2010
- March 2010
- February 2010
- January 2010
- December 2009
- November 2009
- October 2009
- September 2009
- August 2009
- July 2009
- June 2009
- May 2009
- March 2009
- February 2009
- January 2009
- December 2008
- November 2008
- October 2008
- September 2008
- August 2008
- July 2008
- June 2008
- May 2008
- April 2008
- March 2008
- February 2008
- January 2008
- December 2007
- November 2007
- October 2007
- September 2007
- August 2007
- July 2007
- June 2007
- May 2007
- April 2007
- March 2007
- February 2007
- January 2007

#### CATEGORIES

Select Category

# Kelly Tshibaka ~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional

Search...

Go



25  
Thursday  
Sep 2014

## Sword in the Sheath

Posted by ktschibaka in Uncategorized

1 Comment

Niki told Slah that when he was a kid and was having a hard time sleeping, he would keep his Bible open on the side of his bed. There was something comforting just about having it opened near him.

The next day Slah came to him: "Dad, I think I figured out why it's so much better to have the Bible opened than closed."

"Why, son?"

"Well because it says in the Bible that the word of God is like a sword, right? Well when the Bible is closed, it's like a sword in its sheath. But when it's open, it's unsheathed!"

SHARE THIS:



2,338 19

← Previous post

Next post →

### THOUGHT ON "SWORD IN THE SHEATH"



Isaac Hovet said:

2014-10-25 20:15:17 EST

That is good for us all! I am opening my bible now! Great reminder and so pithy! You've got great kids! High fives from the Best Coast! Err, I meant "WEST" coast.

lth BLOG: "www.isachovet.com" \* CHURCH: "www.cg4.tv" \* EQ: "www.tumaroundchurch.com" \* LIFE: "www.facebook.com/hovet" \* TWEETING: "www.twitter.com/isachovet" \*

REPLY

### LEAVE A REPLY

Enter your comment here...

Search...

Go

#### FOLLOW BLOG

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 1,936 other followers

Enter your email address

Follow

#### RECENT POSTS

- Principles for Helping Me Remain Open to Submitting to God's Plan for My Life
- Heavy Teacher
- Sword in the Sheath
- Mushrooms
- Credit Where Credit's Due

#### ARCHIVES

- February 2015
- October 2014
- September 2014
- April 2014
- March 2014
- February 2014
- January 2014
- December 2013
- November 2013
- October 2013
- September 2013
- August 2013
- June 2013
- May 2013
- April 2013
- March 2013
- February 2013
- January 2013
- December 2012
- November 2012
- October 2012
- September 2012
- August 2012
- July 2012
- June 2012
- May 2012
- April 2012
- March 2012
- January 2012
- December 2011
- November 2011
- October 2011
- September 2011
- August 2011
- July 2011
- April 2011
- March 2011
- February 2011
- January 2011
- December 2010
- November 2010
- October 2010
- September 2010
- August 2010
- July 2010
- June 2010
- May 2010
- April 2010
- March 2010
- February 2010
- January 2010
- December 2009
- November 2009
- October 2009
- September 2009
- August 2009
- July 2009
- June 2009
- May 2009
- March 2009
- February 2009
- January 2009
- December 2008
- November 2008
- October 2008
- September 2008
- August 2008
- July 2008
- June 2008
- May 2008
- April 2008
- March 2008
- February 2008
- January 2008
- December 2007
- November 2007
- October 2007
- September 2007
- August 2007
- July 2007
- June 2007
- May 2007
- April 2007
- March 2007
- February 2007
- January 2007

#### CATEGORIES

Select Category

# Kelly Tshibaka ~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional

Search...

Go



18  
Friday  
Apr 2014

## I'm Not the World's Greatest Cook

POSTED BY KTSHIBAKA IN PIONEER, RAISING KIDS

LEAVE A COMMENT

I can bake up a storm. I can bust out Moroccan bastilla and fresh apple crumble like nobody's business. And I can also set off the fire alarms on a semi-regular basis. What can I say? I'm not the world's greatest cook. But I'm cool with it.

Tags  
Parenting



SHARE THIS:



1,338 Views

Previous post

Next post

LEAVE A REPLY

Enter your comment here...

Search... Go

### FOLLOW BLOG

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 1,338 other followers

Enter your email address

Follow

### RECENT POSTS

- Principles for Helping Me Remain Open to Submitting to God's Plan for My Life
- Heavy Teacher
- Sword in the Sheath
- Mushrooms
- Credit Where Credit's Due

### ARCHIVES

- February 2015
- October 2014
- September 2014
- April 2014
- March 2014
- February 2014
- January 2014
- December 2013
- November 2013
- October 2013
- September 2013
- August 2013
- June 2013
- May 2013
- April 2013
- March 2013
- February 2013
- January 2013
- December 2012
- November 2012
- October 2012
- September 2012
- August 2012
- July 2012
- June 2012
- May 2012
- April 2012
- March 2012
- January 2012
- December 2011
- November 2011
- October 2011
- September 2011
- August 2011
- July 2011
- April 2011
- March 2011
- February 2011
- January 2011
- December 2010
- November 2010
- October 2010
- September 2010
- August 2010
- July 2010
- June 2010
- May 2010
- April 2010
- March 2010
- February 2010
- January 2010
- December 2009
- November 2009
- October 2009
- September 2009
- August 2009
- July 2009
- June 2009
- May 2009
- March 2009
- February 2009
- January 2009
- December 2008
- November 2008
- October 2008
- September 2008
- August 2008
- July 2008
- June 2008
- May 2008
- April 2008
- March 2008
- February 2008
- January 2008
- December 2007
- November 2007
- October 2007
- September 2007
- August 2007
- July 2007
- June 2007
- May 2007
- April 2007
- March 2007
- February 2007
- January 2007

### CATEGORIES

Select Category



# Kelly Tshibaka ~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional

Search...

Go



19  
Saturday  
April 2014

## Happy Easter!

POSTED BY KTSHIBAKA IN KID STORIES

1 COMMENT

Tags  
Parenting



Share this:



More

1338 Views

Previous post

Next post

1

### THOUGHT ON "HAPPY EASTER!"



Susan Arlon said:

April 20, 2014 at 10:00 AM

Is it just me or do I see Email pan2??? Happy Easter to you and your precious family!  
Love you!  
>

REPLY

LEAVE A REPLY

Enter your comment here...

Search...

Go

#### FOLLOW BLOG

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 1,000 other followers

Enter your email address

Follow

#### RECENT POSTS

- Principles for Helping Me Remain Open to Submitting to God's Plan for My Life
- Heavy Teacher
- Sword in the Sheath
- Mushrooms
- Credit Where Credit's Due

#### ARCHIVES

- February 2015
- October 2014
- September 2014
- April 2014
- March 2014
- February 2014
- January 2014
- December 2013
- November 2013
- October 2013
- September 2013
- August 2013
- June 2013
- May 2013
- April 2013
- March 2013
- February 2013
- January 2013
- December 2012
- November 2012
- October 2012
- September 2012
- August 2012
- July 2012
- June 2012
- May 2012
- April 2012
- March 2012
- January 2012
- December 2011
- November 2011
- October 2011
- September 2011
- August 2011
- July 2011
- April 2011
- March 2011
- February 2011
- January 2011
- December 2010
- November 2010
- October 2010
- September 2010
- August 2010
- July 2010
- June 2010
- May 2010
- April 2010
- March 2010
- February 2010
- January 2010
- December 2009
- November 2009
- October 2009
- September 2009
- August 2009
- July 2009
- June 2009
- May 2009
- March 2009
- February 2009
- January 2009
- December 2008
- November 2008
- October 2008
- September 2008
- August 2008
- July 2008
- June 2008
- May 2008
- April 2008
- March 2008
- February 2008
- January 2008
- December 2007
- November 2007
- October 2007
- September 2007
- August 2007
- July 2007
- June 2007
- May 2007
- April 2007
- March 2007
- February 2007
- January 2007

#### CATEGORIES

Select Category

# Kelly Tshibaka ~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional

Search...

Go



22  
Tuesday  
April 2014

## Disappointments in Ministry

POSTED BY KTSHIBAKA IN LEADERSHIP, MINISTRY

1 COMMENT

For some reason the disappointments and pains of ministry have a way of affecting us more than the successes. Just like how we are more cognizant of Judas's betrayal than John's devotion, it can be so easy to let disappointments like this week overshadow successes like last week. We may have lost a battle, but we are still committed to the war. That's the key! Reminds me of that great rhetorical question in the Hobbit: Desolation of Smaug — when did we let evil become more powerful than us? We can't and we won't.

It's so hard when you want something good for others more than they want it for themselves. I've found that to be one of the most challenging and heartbreaking parts of ministry. Here are two things I've found that help: 1) meditating on the times when Jesus has felt about me the way I feel about the person(s) who disappointed me, and 2) keeping a list of successes that I can go back to remind myself of the good I did.

Your success in ministry will be determined by whether you are consumed with the pain of the past or the potential of the future. A list of successes helps me to stay focused on what matters (for the joy set before Him...)

SHARE THIS:



more options

1,308 0

— Previous post

Next post —

1

### THOUGHT ON "DISAPPOINTMENTS IN MINISTRY"



Nancy Maynard salt

April 22, 2014 at 7:11 PM

I needed to hear this today. Thank you so much for sharing.

REPLY

LEAVE A REPLY

Enter your comment here...

Search...

Go

#### FOLLOW BLOG

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 1,308 other followers

Enter your email address

Follow

#### RECENT POSTS

- Principles for Helping Me Remain Open to Submitting to God's Plan for My Life
- Heavy Teacher
- Sword in the Sheath
- Mushrooms
- Credit Where Credit's Due

#### ARCHIVES

- February 2015
- October 2014
- September 2014
- April 2014
- March 2014
- February 2014
- January 2014
- December 2013
- November 2013
- October 2013
- September 2013
- August 2013
- June 2013
- May 2013
- April 2013
- March 2013
- February 2013
- January 2013
- December 2012
- November 2012
- October 2012
- September 2012
- August 2012
- July 2012
- June 2012
- May 2012
- April 2012
- March 2012
- January 2012
- December 2011
- November 2011
- October 2011
- September 2011
- August 2011
- July 2011
- April 2011
- March 2011
- February 2011
- January 2011
- December 2010
- November 2010
- October 2010
- September 2010
- August 2010
- July 2010
- June 2010
- May 2010
- April 2010
- March 2010
- February 2010
- January 2010
- December 2009
- November 2009
- October 2009
- September 2009
- August 2009
- July 2009
- June 2009
- May 2009
- March 2009
- February 2009
- January 2009
- December 2008
- November 2008
- October 2008
- September 2008
- August 2008
- July 2008
- June 2008
- May 2008
- April 2008
- March 2008
- February 2008
- January 2008
- December 2007
- November 2007
- October 2007
- September 2007
- August 2007
- July 2007
- June 2007
- May 2007
- April 2007
- March 2007
- February 2007
- January 2007

#### CATEGORIES

Select Category

# Kelly Tshibaka ~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional

Search?

Go



04  
Thursday  
Jun 2015

## Charlie Charlie Challenge: How We're Guiding Our Kids as Christians

POSTED BY KTSHBKA IN Uncategorized

LEAVE A COMMENT

Recently the "Charlie Charlie Challenge" has surged on social media, leading youth and kids all around the nation to experiment with it. It's essentially a makeshift Ouija board. Youth draw a quadrant on a sheet, place two intersecting pencils on top of each other, and then ask, "Charlie, Charlie, are you there?" They then proceed to ask subsequent questions and the top pencil moves to land on the correct answer in the quadrant (e.g., yes, no, etc.) Of course, most the time the top pencil does not move. But sometimes it does. And that's because evil spirits are real and they're more than happy to respond to invitations to afflict people.

Regardless of whether the pencil moves, engaging in this "game" presents significant spiritual risk to those who play it and others who are around or exposed to it (e.g., an entire school). It's not that kids are being possessed by evil spirits (possession is the most extreme form of spiritual attack), but evil spirits can bring fear, depression, nightmares, accidents, sickness, etc. Their *modus operandi* is the same as Satan's: to steal, kill, and destroy. Whether or not the pencil moves doesn't change 1) that evil spirits are real, and 2) playing the game invites spiritual affliction. This is the approach we're taking and how we've counseled our children with respect to this "game":

- If they witness kids playing it, walk away or don't engage (I don't want them engaging in spiritual warfare on their own against this spirit)
- If they can't remove themselves, use the opportunity to segue the conversation into a spiritual discussion (e.g., "I believe that stuff's real. There's evil spirits and they work for Satan. Satan hurts us and pulls us away from God. He's the reason we die. But God loved us so much He sent His Son Jesus to die in our place, and if we believe this and trust Jesus, our spirits won't die but live forever.")
- They can pray to protect themselves and others; they can sing worship songs; and they can meditate on a Bible verse. (The Word of God is the Sword of the Spirit, so it's their best protection)
- We pray a prayer of protection over them before they leave: "in the name of Jesus Christ and by the power of His Blood and Cross, I bind up the power of any evil spirits and command them not to block these prayers. I bind up the powers of earth, air, water, fire, the netherworld and satanic forces of nature. I break any curses, hexes, or spells sent against you in Jesus' name. I cancel the assignments of any evil spirits sent against you and send them to Jesus for Him to deal with them as He will. I silence all communication in the world of evil spirits as it pertains to these children. Lord, bless our enemies and lead them to repentance. Lord, forgive those who know not what they do. And Jesus, please protect these kids with your blood and send your angels to protect them. Amen.
- We pray a prayer of cleansing over them when they return: Lord, the spiritual evil these kids encountered today is more than they can bear, so please cleanse them of any sadness, negativity, or despair that they've picked up. Cleanse them of temptations like anger, disobedience, or impatience and replace them with the fruit of your Spirit. If any evil spirits have attached themselves to, oppressed, or afflicted these kids in any way, I command you to depart now and go straight to Jesus Christ for Him to deal with you as He will. I cancel the assignments of fear, depression, jealousy, nightmares, and divination and declare them null and void, in Jesus' name. Come, Holy Spirit, and fill these kids anew with your Light, Life, and Love. We praise You, Jesus. Amen. (Prayers adapted from Dr. Francis MacNutt's prayer)

Please note — evil spirits aren't anything to be afraid of. They rarely operate like we see in the movies. Instead, they bring things like sicknesses, diseases, poverty, depression, accidents and harm, confusion, and despair (and these things aren't always caused by spirits). And it's reasonable to think we're encountering them all the time — we are behind "enemy" lines, if you will. So it's kinda like a trash collector — after a day of work, it's logical to think he's got some trash on him and needs to wash up. Same thing's true spiritually — if you're exposed to spiritual garbage, you can wash up, and the Blood of Jesus washes us whiter than snow. And, He who is in us (Jesus) is greater than he who is in the world (Satan). So there's something we can do about all this, and we "really" have no reason to fear.

If someone has played the "game" (or engaged in other spiritually dangerous activities like ouija boards, palm readers, or tarot cards), the prayer process is simple — thank Jesus for His love, grace, and healing; have the person ask Jesus to forgive them for playing (probably because they didn't know); have the person uninvite the evil spirits ("any evil spirits that have attached themselves to, oppressed, or afflicted me in any way — I don't want you here, you are not welcome here, and I command you to leave, in the name of Jesus Christ"); and then you complete the prayer by following the Prayer for Cleansing up above. Here are some articles written on this to give you more info. I don't agree with the "it's harmless" perspective of the Post article, but it provides helpful context for what the "game" is. (As Koyler Stone said, "the greatest trick the devil ever pulled was convincing the world he didn't exist")

<http://www.christianitytoday.com/article/summoning-the-demons-playing-charlie-charlie-game-poses-real-danger-for-american-exorcist-54931.htm>  
<http://www.washingtonpost.com/news/the-intersect/wp/2015/05/26/the-complete-true-story-of-charlie-charlie-the-demonic-liter-game-overtaking-the-internet/>

I hope this helps!

SHARE THIS:



More

1,338 0

[← Previous post](#)

LEAVE A REPLY

Enter your comment here...

Search?

Go

FOLLOW BLOG

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 1,096 other followers

Follow

RECENT POSTS

Charlie Charlie Challenge: How We're Guiding Our Kids as Christians

Principles for Helping Me Remain Open to Submitting to God's Plan for My Life

Heavy Teacher

Sword in the Sheath

Mushrooms

ARCHIVES

June 2015

February 2015

October 2014

September 2014

April 2014

March 2014

February 2014

January 2014

December 2013

November 2013

October 2013

September 2013

August 2013

June 2013

May 2013

April 2013

March 2013

February 2013

January 2013

December 2012

November 2012

October 2012

September 2012

August 2012

July 2012

June 2012

May 2012

April 2012

March 2012

January 2012

December 2011

November 2011

October 2011

September 2011

August 2011

July 2011

April 2011

March 2011

February 2011

January 2011

December 2010

November 2010

October 2010

September 2010

August 2010

July 2010

June 2010

May 2010

April 2010

March 2010

February 2010

January 2010

December 2009

November 2009

October 2009

September 2009

August 2009

July 2009

June 2009

May 2009

March 2009

February 2009

January 2009

December 2008

November 2008

October 2008

September 2008

August 2008

July 2008

June 2008

May 2008

April 2008

March 2008

February 2008

January 2008

December 2007

November 2007

October 2007

September 2007

August 2007

July 2007

June 2007

May 2007

April 2007

March 2007

February 2007

January 2007

CATEGORIES

Select Category ▼

# Kelly Tshibaka ~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional

Search...

Go



23  
Tuesday  
July 2015

## How to Handle Fear and Panic at Work

POSTED BY KTSHIBAKA IN Uncategorized

LEAVE A COMMENT

A friend recently wrote me about experiencing fear and panic while going out for a new job. I've been there. The paralyzing panic attacks are all too familiar (and I'm not naturally inclined towards panic). I'm "so" sorry anyone goes through this.

Here's what's helped me in those times. This is what I meditate on: His Name is the hope of all the earth. He is your Protector, Provider, and Promoter. He exalts and He humbles. He sets up rulers and leaders. Your times are in His hand. Nothing can separate you from His love. Neither death nor life, nor money nor poverty, nor promotion nor demotion. This decision has no reflection on who you are, who He is, how much He loves you, and how much He believes in you. There is nothing that can happen to you that He doesn't allow. He's got this. And He knows how to give good gifts to His children. And He knows the plans and purposes He has for you. Rejoice when you encounter various trials, knowing that the testing of your faith produces endurance. And let endurance have it's perfect result, so you will be perfect and complete, lacking nothing. He has sat you in a broad place. He has delivered you because He delights in you. God is good and I can trust Him no matter what. All the time. No matter what. You've got this. Go in the strength that you have. Trust the Lord for the outcome.

SHARE THIS:



Like this:

Previous post

LEAVE A REPLY

Enter your comment here...

Search... Go

FOLLOW BLOG  
Enter your email address to follow the blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 1,102 other followers

Enter your email address

Follow

RECENT POSTS

- How to Handle Fear and Panic at Work
- Charlie Charlie Challenge: How We're Guiding Our Kids as Christians
- Principles for Helping Me Remain Open to Submitting to God's Plan for My Life
- Heavy Teacher
- Sword in the Sheath

ARCHIVES

- June 2015
- February 2015
- October 2014
- September 2014
- April 2014
- March 2014
- February 2014
- January 2014
- December 2013
- November 2013
- October 2013
- September 2013
- August 2013
- June 2013
- May 2013
- April 2013
- March 2013
- February 2013
- January 2013
- December 2012
- November 2012
- October 2012
- September 2012
- August 2012
- July 2012
- June 2012
- May 2012
- April 2012
- March 2012
- January 2012
- December 2011
- November 2011
- October 2011
- September 2011
- August 2011
- July 2011
- April 2011
- March 2011
- February 2011
- January 2011
- December 2010
- November 2010
- October 2010
- September 2010
- August 2010
- July 2010
- June 2010
- May 2010
- April 2010
- March 2010
- February 2010
- January 2010
- December 2009
- November 2009
- October 2009
- September 2009
- August 2009
- July 2009
- June 2009
- May 2009
- March 2009
- February 2009
- January 2009
- December 2008
- November 2008
- October 2008
- September 2008
- August 2008
- July 2008
- June 2008
- May 2008
- April 2008
- March 2008
- February 2008
- January 2008
- December 2007
- November 2007
- October 2007
- September 2007
- August 2007
- July 2007
- June 2007
- May 2007
- April 2007
- March 2007
- February 2007
- January 2007

CATEGORIES

Select Category



```
▼<rss xmlns:content="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/content/" xmlns:dc="http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/" xmlns:atom="http://www.w3.org/2005/Atom"
xmlns:sy="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/syndication/" xmlns:georss="http://www.georss.org/georss" xmlns:geo="http://www.w3.org/2003/01/geo/wgs84_pos#"
xmlns:media="http://search.yahoo.com/mrss/" version="2.0">
▼<channel>
  <title>Comments on: Mushrooms</title>
  <atom:link href="http://kellytshibaka.com/2014/09/22/mushrooms/feed/" rel="self" type="application/rss+xml"/>
  <link>http://kellytshibaka.com/2014/09/22/mushrooms/</link>
  <description>Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional</description>
  <lastBuildDate>Fri, 26 Jun 2015 20:28:47 +0000</lastBuildDate>
  <sy:updatePeriod>hourly</sy:updatePeriod>
  <sy:updateFrequency>1</sy:updateFrequency>
  <generator>http://wordpress.com/</generator>
▼<item>
  <title>By: Isaac Hovet</title>
  <link>http://kellytshibaka.com/2014/09/22/mushrooms/comment-page-1/#comment-19684</link>
▼<dc:creator>
  <![CDATA[ Isaac Hovet ]]>
</dc:creator>
  <pubDate>Mon, 22 Sep 2014 16:10:39 +0000</pubDate>
  <guid isPermaLink="false">http://kellytshibaka.com/?p=1534#comment-19684</guid>
▼<description>
  <![CDATA[ Amazing! ijh BLOG: *www.isaachovet.com * CHURCH: *www.cg4.tv * EQ: *www.turnaroundchurch.com * LIFE: *www.facebook.com/ihovet * TWEETING:
    *www.twitter.com/isaachovet * ]]>
</description>
▼<content:encoded>
  <![CDATA[ <p>Amazing! </p> <p>ijh BLOG: *www.isaachovet.com * CHURCH: *www.cg4.tv * EQ: *www.turnaroundchurch.com * LIFE: *www.facebook.com/ihovet *
    TWEETING: *www.twitter.com/isaachovet *</p> ]]>
  </content:encoded>
</item>
</channel>
</rss>
```

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?><rss version="2.0"
  xmlns:content="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/content/"
  xmlns:dc="http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/"
  xmlns:atom="http://www.w3.org/2005/Atom"
  xmlns:sy="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/syndication/"
  xmlns:georss="http://www.georss.org/georss" xmlns:geo="http://www.w3.org/2003/01/geo/wgs84_pos#" xmlns:media="http://search.yahoo.com/mrss/"
>
<channel>
  <title>Comments on: Heavy Teacher</title>
  <atom:link href="http://kellytshibaka.com/2014/10/09/heavy-teacher/feed/" rel="self" type="application/rss+xml" />
  <link>http://kellytshibaka.com/2014/10/09/heavy-teacher/</link>
  <description>Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional</description>
  <lastBuildDate>Fri, 26 Jun 2015 20:28:47 +0000</lastBuildDate>
  <sy:updatePeriod>hourly</sy:updatePeriod>
  <sy:updateFrequency>1</sy:updateFrequency>
  <generator>http://wordpress.com/</generator>
  <item>
    <title>By: Kathy</title>
    <link>http://kellytshibaka.com/2014/10/09/heavy-teacher/comment-page-1/#comment-21698</link>
    <dc:creator><![CDATA[Kathy]]></dc:creator>
    <pubDate>Sat, 18 Oct 2014 04:48:15 +0000</pubDate>
    <guid isPermaLink="false">http://kellytshibaka.wordpress.com/?p=1539#comment-21698</guid>
    <description><![CDATA[harin tiimee tllaaragt gedeg yostoi aimshigtai. fitness, aerobic ene tereed yavahar tuushtai uldsen amidraliinha turshid 1
yavna gej tootsoolj ehlehgui bol dund ni saataad tasalbal yostoi baisnaasaa iluu dordono geech.mini bie heviin jingese bas 1 15kg iluu. namhan hund ene bol suirel
1 gesen ug. odoonoos harin usan d seelteer hicheelledeg yum bilu gesen bodol turj bga. her zereg ur dun uguh esehig medehgui 1 yum. ta buhend sana onoo baival
huvaaltsaarai! :0]]></description>
    <content:encoded><![CDATA[<p>harin tiimee tllaaragt gedeg yostoi aimshigtai. fitness, aerobic ene tereed yavahar tuushtai uldsen amidraliinha
turshid 1 yavna gej tootsoolj ehlehgui bol dund ni saataad tasalbal yostoi baisnaasaa iluu dordono geech.mini bie heviin jingese bas 1 15kg iluu. namhan hund ene
bol suirel 1 gesen ug. odoonoos harin usan d seelteer hicheelledeg yum bilu gesen bodol turj bga. her zereg ur dun uguh esehig medehgui 1 yum. ta buhend sana
onoo baival huvaaltsaarai! :0</p>
]]></content:encoded>
    </item>
</channel>
</rss>
```

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?><rss version="2.0"
  xmlns:content="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/content/"
  xmlns:dc="http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/"
  xmlns:atom="http://www.w3.org/2005/Atom"
  xmlns:sy="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/syndication/"
  xmlns:georss="http://www.georss.org/georss" xmlns:geo="http://www.w3.org/2003/01/geo/wgs84_pos#" xmlns:media="http://search.yahoo.com/mrss/"
  >
<channel>
  <title>Comments on: Walking in a Winter Wonderland</title>
  <atom:link href="http://kellytshibaka.com/2013/12/09/walking-in-a-winter-wonderland/feed/" rel="self" type="application/rss+xml" />
  <link>http://kellytshibaka.com/2013/12/09/walking-in-a-winter-wonderland/</link>
  <description>Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional</description>
  <lastBuildDate>Fri, 26 Jun 2015 20:28:47 +0000</lastBuildDate>
  <sy:updatePeriod>hourly</sy:updatePeriod>
  <sy:updateFrequency>1</sy:updateFrequency>
  <generator>http://wordpress.com/</generator>
</channel>
</rss>
```

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?><rss version="2.0"
  xmlns:content="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/content/"
  xmlns:dc="http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/"
  xmlns:atom="http://www.w3.org/2005/Atom"
  xmlns:sy="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/syndication/"
  xmlns:georss="http://www.georss.org/georss" xmlns:geo="http://www.w3.org/2003/01/geo/wgs84_pos#" xmlns:media="http://search.yahoo.com/mrss/"
  >
<channel>
  <title>Comments on: Advent Adventures (part 1)</title>
  <atom:link href="http://kellytshibaka.com/2013/12/07/advent-adventures-part-1/feed/" rel="self" type="application/rss+xml" />
  <link>http://kellytshibaka.com/2013/12/07/advent-adventures-part-1/</link>
  <description>Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional</description>
  <lastBuildDate>Fri, 26 Jun 2015 20:28:47 +0000</lastBuildDate>
  <sy:updatePeriod>hourly</sy:updatePeriod>
  <sy:updateFrequency>1</sy:updateFrequency>
  <generator>http://wordpress.com/</generator>
</channel>
</rss>
```



```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?><rss version="2.0"
  xmlns:content="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/content/"
  xmlns:dc="http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/"
  xmlns:atom="http://www.w3.org/2005/Atom"
  xmlns:sy="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/syndication/"
  xmlns:georss="http://www.georss.org/georss" xmlns:geo="http://www.w3.org/2003/01/geo/wgs84_pos#" xmlns:media="http://search.yahoo.com/mrss/"
  >
<channel>
  <title>Comments on: How Do You Know If You're a Leader?</title>
  <atom:link href="http://kellytshibaka.com/2013/12/09/how-do-you-know-if-youre-a-leader/feed/" rel="self" type="application/rss+xml" />
  <link>http://kellytshibaka.com/2013/12/09/how-do-you-know-if-youre-a-leader/</link>
  <description>Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional</description>
  <lastBuildDate>Fri, 26 Jun 2015 20:28:47 +0000</lastBuildDate>
  <sy:updatePeriod>hourly</sy:updatePeriod>
  <sy:updateFrequency>1</sy:updateFrequency>
  <generator>http://wordpress.com/</generator>
</channel>
</rss>
```

# Kelly Tshibaka ~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional

Search...

Go



27  
Sunday  
April 2014

## Credit Where Credit's Due

POSTED BY KATHARINE W. AND STORIES

LEAVE A COMMENT

"Elora has got good looks. She inherited them from me. Of course mommy and daddy will try to take credit." ~Button

Tags  
Parenting

REPLY 17 000 000

Share this:



loading

Previous post

Next post

LEAVE A REPLY

Enter your comment here...

Search... Go

FOLLOW BLOG

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 1,100 other followers

Or enter a manual address

Follow

RECENT POSTS

- How to Handle Fear and Panic at Work
- Charlie Charlie Challenge: How We're Guiding Our Kids as Christians
- Principles for Helping Me Remain Open to Submitting to God's Plan for My Life
- Heavy Teacher
- Sword in the Sheath

ARCHIVES

- June 2015
- February 2015
- October 2014
- September 2014
- April 2014
- March 2014
- February 2014
- January 2014
- December 2013
- November 2013
- October 2013
- September 2013
- August 2013
- June 2013
- May 2013
- April 2013
- March 2013
- February 2013
- January 2013
- December 2012
- November 2012
- October 2012
- September 2012
- August 2012
- July 2012
- June 2012
- May 2012
- April 2012
- March 2012
- January 2012
- December 2011
- November 2011
- October 2011
- September 2011
- August 2011
- July 2011
- April 2011
- March 2011
- February 2011
- January 2011
- December 2010
- November 2010
- October 2010
- September 2010
- August 2010
- July 2010
- June 2010
- May 2010
- April 2010
- March 2010
- February 2010
- January 2010
- December 2009
- November 2009
- October 2009
- September 2009
- August 2009
- July 2009
- June 2009
- May 2009
- March 2009
- February 2009
- January 2009
- December 2008
- November 2008
- October 2008
- September 2008
- August 2008
- July 2008
- June 2008
- May 2008
- April 2008
- March 2008
- February 2008
- January 2008
- December 2007
- November 2007
- October 2007
- September 2007
- August 2007
- July 2007
- June 2007
- May 2007
- April 2007
- March 2007
- February 2007
- January 2007

CATEGORIES

Select Category

# Kelly Tshibaka ~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional

Search...

Go



21  
Monday  
Sep 2015

## Be Confident in the Lord

POSTED BY KESHIBAKA IN UNCATEGORIZED

LEAVE A COMMENT

It's been awhile since I've actively blogged (because I've been living life and working through some areas needing healing and development). So if you're just joining us, here's a little bit about me for context - I met my husband in law school (same year), got married in law school, and we moved to D.C. to have powerful legal careers. Ministry was just about the furthest thing from our minds. But God's call was clear and unavoidable (a longer story), and 4½ years after moving here we planted a church ([houseofpiousdads.org](http://houseofpiousdads.org)). At the time, both of us worked as attorneys for the government and we had 2 young kids. A year later, God told Nikki to leave the practice of law (there were 15 people in our church). That was hard and courageous, but he did it! And now, 8 years later, we have 5 kids, a church, and I'm still working in the government. It hasn't been easy, but it has been very rewarding. When it gets tough (and it does often), we continue to stick to what God has said. We've had to make a lot of life adjustments as our circumstances have changed in order to keep living out what He said. But one of the principles I live by is *Be confident of what God has said and don't waiver about it.*

Read More »

SHARE THIS:



1,348 Views

Previous post

LEAVE A REPLY

Enter your comment here...

Search...

Go

### FOLLOW BLOG

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 1,110 other followers

What you should add this

Follow

### RECENT POSTS

- Be Confident in the Lord
- How to Handle Fear and Panic at Work
- Charlie Charlie Challenge: How We're Guiding Our Kids as Christians
- Principles for Helping Me Remain Open to Submitting to God's Plan for My Life
- Heavy Teacher

### ARCHIVES

- September 2015
- June 2015
- February 2015
- October 2014
- September 2014
- April 2014
- March 2014
- February 2014
- January 2014
- December 2013
- November 2013
- October 2013
- September 2013
- August 2013
- June 2013
- May 2013
- April 2013
- March 2013
- February 2013
- January 2013
- December 2012
- November 2012
- October 2012
- September 2012
- August 2012
- July 2012
- June 2012
- May 2012
- April 2012
- March 2012
- January 2012
- December 2011
- November 2011
- October 2011
- September 2011
- August 2011
- July 2011
- April 2011
- March 2011
- February 2011
- January 2011
- December 2010
- November 2010
- October 2010
- September 2010
- August 2010
- July 2010
- June 2010
- May 2010
- April 2010
- March 2010
- February 2010
- January 2010
- December 2009
- November 2009
- October 2009
- September 2009
- August 2009
- July 2009
- June 2009
- May 2009
- March 2009
- February 2009
- January 2009
- December 2008
- November 2008
- October 2008
- September 2008
- August 2008
- July 2008
- June 2008
- May 2008
- April 2008
- March 2008
- February 2008
- January 2008
- December 2007
- November 2007
- October 2007
- September 2007
- August 2007
- July 2007
- June 2007
- May 2007
- April 2007
- March 2007
- February 2007
- January 2007

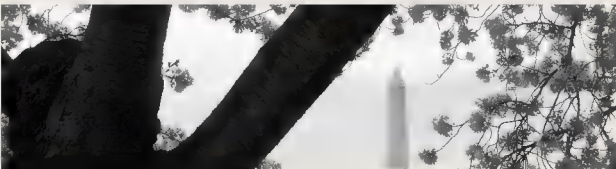
### CATEGORIES

Select Category

# Kelly Tshibaka ~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional

Search...

Go



25  
Friday  
Sep 2015

## Juggling It All

POSTED BY KESHIBAKA IN UNCATEGORIZED

LEAVE A COMMENT

The most frequently asked question I get is "How do you juggle it all?" Once I figure out the answers, I hope to write a book! But here's a short insight for now: I went part-time in my career for 4 years. I worked 9-11 hour days. This gave us a solid paycheck, full benefits, and a good career. My cousin lived with us and watched the kids the days I was at work. When I was home, I watched the kids. When I went back to full-time, we got an au pair to help with the childcare responsibilities. This was a "genius" move that gave us the time we needed to fulfill our responsibilities, enriched our children's lives, and provided the opportunity to disciple someone up-close-and-personal. Niki is engaged in full-time ministry pastoring the church. He also serves as legal counsel and policy advisor (volunteer position) for an organization in the area that combats human trafficking. He also takes several missions and ministry trips a year (3-10). And he is involved in leading a couple start-up businesses, as well as an international development organization. There have been times I'm more engaged in ministry (preached most of 1 year, taken ministry trips, etc.). But since our fifth child was born, I've been less engaged with church and ministry than in the past. Before going part-time, we had the kids in full-time daycare for awhile. That allowed me to work full-time while also giving Niki the time he needed to do ministry, but it also cost a ton of money (later for about a year or so, Niki watched the kids at home during the day). There have been seasons where we have been more and less involved with the operations and ministry of the church. We focus on raising up ministry leaders, so when we've needed to pull back, we've had people who step in to help us. Between job demands, difficult pregnancies, parental leave, the loss of a baby, etc., life sometimes has required less energy/focus on ministry. We try to keep our ministry-related commitments to less than 3 a week, including Sunday. So that means no more than 2 evening appointments, counseling times, etc. during the week. We found that gives us enough space for family time and down time, too. Sundays are pretty busy. We tend to stack a lot of ministry on Sunday and have set the kids' expectations that Sunday is the day we all serve others at church. It's not just mom and dad who serve and pastor—they are making sacrifices, too. We set boundaries around Sabbath time—Friday night is family dinner and movie night. And Saturday we don't do any work. No homework, no church ministry, no chores. It's just rest, delight in God, and have fun as a family time. It took me several years to cultivate the discipline of rest, but now I really couldn't live without it. This down day is essential to juggling it all.

Actual Photo Art

SHARE THIS:



5387 0

Previous post

LEAVE A REPLY

Enter your comment here...

Search...

Go

FOLLOW BLOG

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 1,110 other followers

What you should add this

Follow

RECENT POSTS

- Juggling It All
- Be Confident in the Lord
- How to Handle Fear and Panic at Work
- Charlie Charlie Challenge: How We're Guiding Our Kids as Christians
- Principles for Helping Me Remain Open to Submitting to God's Plan for My Life

ARCHIVES

- September 2015
- June 2015
- February 2015
- October 2014
- September 2014
- April 2014
- March 2014
- February 2014
- January 2014
- December 2013
- November 2013
- October 2013
- September 2013
- August 2013
- June 2013
- May 2013
- April 2013
- March 2013
- February 2013
- January 2013
- December 2012
- November 2012
- October 2012
- September 2012
- August 2012
- July 2012
- June 2012
- May 2012
- April 2012
- March 2012
- January 2012
- December 2011
- November 2011
- October 2011
- September 2011
- August 2011
- July 2011
- April 2011
- March 2011
- February 2011
- January 2011
- December 2010
- November 2010
- October 2010
- September 2010
- August 2010
- July 2010
- June 2010
- May 2010
- April 2010
- March 2010
- February 2010
- January 2010
- December 2009
- November 2009
- October 2009
- September 2009
- August 2009
- July 2009
- June 2009
- May 2009
- March 2009
- February 2009
- January 2009
- December 2008
- November 2008
- October 2008
- September 2008
- August 2008
- July 2008
- June 2008
- May 2008
- April 2008
- March 2008
- February 2008
- January 2008
- December 2007
- November 2007
- October 2007
- September 2007
- August 2007
- July 2007
- June 2007
- May 2007
- April 2007
- March 2007
- February 2007
- January 2007

CATEGORIES

Select Category



- [About](#)
- [Resources](#)
- [Speaking](#)

## Kelly Tshibaka

### ~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional

Search:



### How I Do “Marketplace Ministry” as a D.C. Lawyer

[28 Monday Sep 2015](#)

Posted by [kushibaka](#) in [Uncategorized](#)

≈ [Leave a comment](#)

I’ve also come to learn that ministry isn’t separate from my career. I don’t think of myself as having a “marketplace ministry,” but I am intentional about being a Christian wherever I am. So that means I’m a Christian at work, too.

I’ve led several Bible studies at work, prayed with people, shared the Gospel, offered Biblical words of encouragement and prophetic words, said grace with (non-Christian) colleagues at lunch, given people books to read, and pastored co-workers through challenging life circumstances. I’ve gotten to pray for and see healing miracles, help people hear God for themselves, and even disciple colleagues into mature disciple-making ministry leaders.

In so many ways I wish I could be set free of my legal career because my heart really is in “ministry.” But every time I knock (or pound...) on that door, God makes it clear that He’s not opening it. There’s a reason and purpose why He has me where He does. I suspect that in His thinking, “ministry” doesn’t happen only in church or the Christian sub-culture. So I sometimes think of myself as the pastor for whichever agency I’m working in (and I thought of myself as being responsible for “pastoring” people even before I became a licensed pastor: “But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood”).

I’m pretty bold at work. Not for boldness-sake, but because I’m just pretty bold in general. I share stories about how God has led me and what He’s done in my life. When asked why I live so differently, I tie it to the gospel. I work Bible verses into conversations naturally. I build people up with truth. I go out of my way to think of my colleagues, listen to them, esteem them above myself, and love on them by bringing in food or giving compliments. I’m not belligerent or awkward about sharing my faith. But I’m also not ashamed. Why would I be? Look at what He’s done for me!

And yes, being a visible Christian at work has cost me. It’s cost me job offers and friendships. It’s resulted in false accusations and vindictive vendettas. But as Rich Mullins said, “What I believe is what makes me what I am.” And I am who I am, whether I’m at work, at home, or at church.

I’m a Jesus follower.

[About these ads](#)

Share this:



Like this:

Like Loading...

#### Related

#### Post navigation

[← Previous post](#)

#### Leave a Reply

Enter your comment here...

Search:

#### Follow Blog

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 1,110 other followers

#### Recent Posts

- [How I Do “Marketplace Ministry” as a D.C. Lawyer](#)
- [Juggling It All](#)
- [Be Confident in the Lord](#)
- [How to Handle Fear and Panic at Work](#)
- [Charlie-Charlie Challenge: How We’re Guiding Our Kids as Christians](#)

#### Archives

- [September 2015](#)
- [June 2015](#)
- [February 2015](#)
- [October 2014](#)
- [September 2014](#)
- [April 2014](#)
- [March 2014](#)
- [February 2014](#)
- [January 2014](#)
- [December 2013](#)
- [November 2013](#)
- [October 2013](#)
- [September 2013](#)
- [August 2013](#)
- [June 2013](#)
- [May 2013](#)
- [April 2013](#)
- [March 2013](#)
- [February 2013](#)
- [January 2013](#)
- [December 2012](#)
- [November 2012](#)
- [October 2012](#)
- [September 2012](#)
- [August 2012](#)
- [July 2012](#)
- [June 2012](#)
- [May 2012](#)
- [April 2012](#)
- [March 2012](#)
- [January 2012](#)
- [December 2011](#)
- [November 2011](#)
- [October 2011](#)
- [September 2011](#)
- [August 2011](#)
- [July 2011](#)
- [April 2011](#)
- [March 2011](#)
- [February 2011](#)
- [January 2011](#)
- [December 2010](#)
- [November 2010](#)
- [October 2010](#)
- [September 2010](#)
- [August 2010](#)
- [July 2010](#)
- [June 2010](#)
- [May 2010](#)
- [April 2010](#)
- [March 2010](#)
- [February 2010](#)
- [January 2010](#)
- [December 2009](#)
- [November 2009](#)
- [October 2009](#)
- [September 2009](#)
- [August 2009](#)
- [July 2009](#)
- [June 2009](#)
- [May 2009](#)
- [March 2009](#)
- [February 2009](#)
- [January 2009](#)
- [December 2008](#)
- [November 2008](#)
- [October 2008](#)
- [September 2008](#)
- [August 2008](#)
- [July 2008](#)
- [June 2008](#)
- [May 2008](#)
- [April 2008](#)
- [March 2008](#)
- [February 2008](#)
- [January 2008](#)
- [December 2007](#)
- [November 2007](#)
- [October 2007](#)
- [September 2007](#)
- [August 2007](#)
- [July 2007](#)
- [June 2007](#)
- [May 2007](#)
- [April 2007](#)
- [March 2007](#)
- [February 2007](#)
- [January 2007](#)

#### Categories

Select Category

[Blog at WordPress.com](#). [The Chateau Theme](#).

[Follow](#)

#### Follow “Kelly Tshibaka”

Get every new post delivered to your Inbox.

Join 1,110 other followers

[Build a website with WordPress.com](#)

%d bloggers like this:



# Kelly Tshibaka ~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional

Search...

Go



30  
Wednesday  
SEP 2015

## Waiting for Dreams to Come True

POSTED BY KTSHIBAKA IN Uncategorized

LEAVE A COMMENT

Someone recently told me that "the gifts and call are irrevocable" also means that they don't have an expiration date. In other words, just because my life currently doesn't look like I'm really using my spiritual gifts, doesn't mean they're growing stale or aren't being developed in the crucible of my career for an even more effective use later.

That's really encouraged me in this season of ridiculous balancing/juggling. I've been able to better prioritize what's critical now (marriage, kids, income) believing that a time will come when I'll be able to move more fully into my passion (ministry, writing, speaking). And in the meantime, I see God's grace in that I'm still able to do a fair amount of ministry within the boundaries I have.

The "boundary lines have fallen for me in pleasant places."

REPLY (0) (0)

SHARE THIS:

- Click to share on Twitter (Opens in new window)
- Share on Facebook (Opens in new window)
- Click to email this to a friend (Opens in new window)
- Click to share on LinkedIn (Opens in new window)
- More
- 

3388 (0)

Previous post

LEAVE A REPLY

Enter your comment here...

Search... Go

FOLLOW BLOG

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 1,110 other followers

Follow

RECENT POSTS

- Waiting for Dreams to Come True
- How I Do "Mainplace Ministry" as a D.C. Lawyer
- Juggling It All
- Be Confident in the Lord
- How to Handle Fear and Panic at Work

ARCHIVES

- September 2015
- June 2015
- February 2015
- October 2014
- September 2014
- April 2014
- March 2014
- February 2014
- January 2014
- December 2013
- November 2013
- October 2013
- September 2013
- August 2013
- June 2013
- May 2013
- April 2013
- March 2013
- February 2013
- January 2013
- December 2012
- November 2012
- October 2012
- September 2012
- August 2012
- July 2012
- June 2012
- May 2012
- April 2012
- March 2012
- January 2012
- December 2011
- November 2011
- October 2011
- September 2011
- August 2011
- July 2011
- April 2011
- March 2011
- February 2011
- January 2011
- December 2010
- November 2010
- October 2010
- September 2010
- August 2010
- July 2010
- June 2010
- May 2010
- April 2010
- March 2010
- February 2010
- January 2010
- December 2009
- November 2009
- October 2009
- September 2009
- August 2009
- July 2009
- June 2009
- May 2009
- March 2009
- February 2009
- January 2009
- December 2008
- November 2008
- October 2008
- September 2008
- August 2008
- July 2008
- June 2008
- May 2008
- April 2008
- March 2008
- February 2008
- January 2008
- December 2007
- November 2007
- October 2007
- September 2007
- August 2007
- July 2007
- June 2007
- May 2007
- April 2007
- March 2007
- February 2007
- January 2007

CATEGORIES

Categories  
Select Category



02  
Friday  
Oct 2013

## Being a Lawyer-Pastor

POSTED BY KTSHIBAKA IN Uncategorized

= 2 COMMENTS

An aspiring Christian lawyer asked me about how other pastors react to us, and whether they looked down on us. Here are my thoughts:

And about your question regarding how other pastors have reacted to us – we didn’t do ministry until after we’d been practicing for 4 years. And our circle, if you will, wasn’t so much ministry people as it was lawyers. Most of them thought it was “cool,” but we definitely felt like a lot of them looked down on us. We were surprised, for example, that of our 100 or so friends and contacts in the DC area, only about 5 of them came to our church (even once). Especially after Niki left the practice of law, we didn’t feel like we really “belonged” in our lawyers’ circle anymore.

I think now that we’re in ministry, we’ve experienced mostly admiration and favor from pastors and people in ministry. Mostly... there have been times when I have encountered passive responses that feel something like “you’re not really pastors...you didn’t go to Bible college or get a higher degree in theology/seminary.”

All that to say – I don’t worry much at all about how others respond. It’s taken me a long time to work this out within me, mostly because I’m an atypical female (bold, powerful upfront, highly educated, assertive, etc.) who also is in ministry leadership (even more atypical). I’ve come to realize and accept that God didn’t make a mistake when He made me. I can adjust, mature, grow, and become more like Him, but if I morph too much to fit the expectations/discomfort of others, I start to look less like Him and more like the outcome of a Gallup poll.

It sounds like God has given you a passion for the law and for Him. That’s not a mistake, and He has a plan for you in that. It might not look like anything you (or those around you) have seen before, but it’s not a problem/wrong/ineffective/detrimental to your ministry. It’s Him in you. I believe He has a unique way for you to live out this calling, and He’ll lead you as you pioneer this trail. When you look back behind you, you’ll see His hand in it all, and God willing, you’ll see other people walking confidently down the path you blazed.

All said I think you...

SHARE THIS:



More

... 338 / 9

← Previous post

2

### THOUGHTS ON "BEING A LAWYER-PASTOR"



Simcha said:

October 2, 2013 at 10:11 pm

You are amazing. I love that you don't measure yourself with human metrics; I want to be like you when I am more grown up 😊

REPLY



Tim Massholder said:

October 2, 2013 at 12:11 pm

Kelly...so thankful for all your atypical ways. Keep it up! You are modeling important things, not only for a generation of young women, but for all young leaders. So needed.

REPLY

LEAVE A REPLY

Enter your comment here...

Search...

Go

FOLLOW BLOG

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 1,110 other followers

Or enter your email address

Follow

RECENT POSTS

- Being a Lawyer-Pastor
- Waiting for Dreams to Come True
- How I Do "Marketplace Ministry" as a D.C. Lawyer
- Juggling It All
- Be Confident in the Lord

ARCHIVES

- October 2015
- September 2015
- June 2015
- February 2015
- October 2014
- September 2014
- April 2014
- March 2014
- February 2014
- January 2014
- December 2013
- November 2013
- October 2013
- September 2013
- August 2013
- June 2013
- May 2013
- April 2013
- March 2013
- February 2013
- January 2013
- December 2012
- November 2012
- October 2012
- September 2012
- August 2012
- July 2012
- June 2012
- May 2012
- April 2012
- March 2012
- January 2012
- December 2011
- November 2011
- October 2011
- September 2011
- August 2011
- July 2011
- April 2011
- March 2011
- February 2011
- January 2011
- December 2010
- November 2010
- October 2010
- September 2010
- August 2010
- July 2010
- June 2010
- May 2010
- April 2010
- March 2010
- February 2010
- January 2010
- December 2009
- November 2009
- October 2009
- September 2009
- August 2009
- July 2009
- June 2009
- May 2009
- March 2009
- February 2009
- January 2009
- December 2008
- November 2008
- October 2008
- September 2008
- August 2008
- July 2008
- June 2008
- May 2008
- April 2008
- March 2008
- February 2008
- January 2008
- December 2007
- November 2007
- October 2007
- September 2007
- August 2007
- July 2007
- June 2007
- May 2007
- April 2007
- March 2007
- February 2007
- January 2007

CATEGORIES

Select Category

# Kelly Tshibaka ~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional

Search...

Go



06  
Tuesday  
Oct 7, 2015

## How I Seek Out a Mentor

POSTED BY KTSHIBAKA IN UNCATEGORIZED

= 1 COMMENT

I've heard different approaches about finding a mentor — waiting for someone to approach you, or approaching them yourself. Only one of my mentors has approached me; all the other ones came from relationships I've cultivated.

But, man, it can be awkward putting yourself out there all like, "Hey... I admire you... will you invest in me while I'm still a nobody?" I mean, that's not "actually" how I say it. But that's what it feels like. I've learned to be ok with a "no" and not to take it as rejection. After all, I'm asking some pretty significant, busy, results-driven people to take time out of their schedule for me. A "no" is probably more about their commitments than it is about me.

So here are some emails I sent recently to give you an idea of how I seek a mentor. You'll see a common theme: be specific in what I'm seeking and why, provide a timeframe, and give an essay out. One of these respondents said no, and the other one said yes. Please feel free to use these in seeking out mentors of your own. And offer to mentor others, too (I try to have 2+ mentees for every mentor — and right now I have 4 active mentors).

Hi, POTENTIAL MENTOR,

*I'm interested in learning as much as I can from you, and I was wondering if you could mentor me directly? I envision this as meeting twice a month for 30 minutes (could even be lunch or morning coffee/breakfast) or once a month for an hour, and we would discuss 1) questions I have about how you operate and what you've learned (e.g., how do you get people to follow, how do you identify talent, how do you address certain challenges); 2) your perspective on any issues, decisions, or opportunities I'm facing; and 3) any feedback or ideas you have for me that would help me grow.*

*I know you're extremely busy, and so I totally understand if this won't work in your schedule right now. But if it does, then I'm excited about learning everything I can from you!*

Thanks so much,  
ME

Hi, POTENTIAL MENTOR!

Congratulations on your RECENT CAREER DEVELOPMENT.

The last time we spoke I was SHORT CAREER RECAP. I'm currently SHORT CAREER STATEMENT.

*Also during this time, I'm working with a professional coach. We've spent the last couple months identifying and distilling my core values as a leader — who I want to be and how I want to live. As part of this process, my coach asked me if I knew of anyone who embodied these values—you were the first person who came to mind.*

*While I can learn from you from a distance, I realize I would learn so much more about leadership from you directly. So I wanted to reach out to see if you'd be interested in mentoring me? I envision this looking like meeting up once every 4-6 weeks about 10-15 times for me to ask questions, get your take on current challenges I'm experiencing, and hear from you anything you think is valuable to pass on. Alternatively, if that doesn't work for you time-wise, would you be open to meeting up just once in the next couple months?*

Thanks so much,

RE: 681F02D-8321

SHARE THIS



1338719

← Previous post

### THOUGHT ON "HOW I SEEK OUT A MENTOR"



Anonymous said:

October 6, 2015 at 11:11 pm

which one garnered a "yes" response?

REPLY

LEAVE A REPLY

Enter your comment here...

Search...

Go

FOLLOW BLOG

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 1,110 other followers

Enter your email address

Follow

RECENT POSTS

- How I Seek Out a Mentor
- Being a Lawyer-Pastor
- Waiting for Dreams to Come True
- How I Do "Marketplace Ministry" as a D.C. Lawyer
- Juggling It All

ARCHIVES

- October 2015
- September 2015
- June 2015
- February 2015
- October 2014
- September 2014
- April 2014
- March 2014
- February 2014
- January 2014
- December 2013
- November 2013
- October 2013
- September 2013
- August 2013
- June 2013
- May 2013
- April 2013
- March 2013
- February 2013
- January 2013
- December 2012
- November 2012
- October 2012
- September 2012
- August 2012
- July 2012
- June 2012
- May 2012
- April 2012
- March 2012
- January 2012
- December 2011
- November 2011
- October 2011
- September 2011
- August 2011
- July 2011
- April 2011
- March 2011
- February 2011
- January 2011
- December 2010
- November 2010
- October 2010
- September 2010
- August 2010
- July 2010
- June 2010
- May 2010
- April 2010
- March 2010
- February 2010
- January 2010
- December 2009
- November 2009
- October 2009
- September 2009
- August 2009
- July 2009
- June 2009
- May 2009
- March 2009
- February 2009
- January 2009
- December 2008
- November 2008
- October 2008
- September 2008
- August 2008
- July 2008
- June 2008
- May 2008
- April 2008
- March 2008
- February 2008
- January 2008
- December 2007
- November 2007
- October 2007
- September 2007
- August 2007
- July 2007
- June 2007
- May 2007
- April 2007
- March 2007
- February 2007
- January 2007

CATEGORIES

Select Category



# Kelly Tshibaka ~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional

Search...

Go



08  
Thursday  
OCT 2013

## Give Others Freedom to Minister

POSTED BY KTSHIBAKA IN Uncategorized

LEAVE A COMMENT

I read this article because I love reading about leadership (<https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/on-leadership/wp/2015/07/21/in-bug-moves-accenture-will-get-rid-of-annual-performance-reviews-and-rankings/>). This quote stood out to me:

*“The art of leadership is not to spend your time measuring, evaluating,” Nanterme said. “It’s all about selecting the person. And if you believe you selected the right person, then you give that person the freedom, the authority, the delegation to innovate and to lead with some very simple measure.”*

While the author is talking about performance reviews in a professional context, I couldn’t help but think about leadership development (a.k.a. “discipling”) in a Christian ministry context. “You didn’t choose Me, but I chose you,” Jesus said. So all these Christians around me — in my church, in my community, in my social circles — must be the “right person.” After all, HE picked them!

So applying Nanterme’s successful philosophy to ministry supports the idea that the best way to raise up leaders is give them the freedom, authority, and responsibility to lead. And their standard for success — both in my eyes and in theirs — has got to be simple.

Simple. Intentional. Relational. This is discipling.

2013-10-17 00:00:00

SHARE THIS:



... 2013-10-17

← Previous post

LEAVE A REPLY

Enter your comment here...

Search... Go

FOLLOW BLOG

enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 1,110 other followers

Or enter your email address

Follow

RECENT POSTS

- Give Others Freedom to Minister
- How I Seek Out a Mentor
- Being a Lawyer-Pastor
- Waiting for Dreams to Come True
- How I Do “Marketplace Ministry” as a D.C. Lawyer

ARCHIVES

- October 2015
- September 2015
- June 2015
- February 2015
- October 2014
- September 2014
- April 2014
- March 2014
- February 2014
- January 2014
- December 2013
- November 2013
- October 2013
- September 2013
- August 2013
- June 2013
- May 2013
- April 2013
- March 2013
- February 2013
- January 2013
- December 2012
- November 2012
- October 2012
- September 2012
- August 2012
- July 2012
- June 2012
- May 2012
- April 2012
- March 2012
- January 2012
- December 2011
- November 2011
- October 2011
- September 2011
- August 2011
- July 2011
- April 2011
- March 2011
- February 2011
- January 2011
- December 2010
- November 2010
- October 2010
- September 2010
- August 2010
- July 2010
- June 2010
- May 2010
- April 2010
- March 2010
- February 2010
- January 2010
- December 2009
- November 2009
- October 2009
- September 2009
- August 2009
- July 2009
- June 2009
- May 2009
- March 2009
- February 2009
- January 2009
- December 2008
- November 2008
- October 2008
- September 2008
- August 2008
- July 2008
- June 2008
- May 2008
- April 2008
- March 2008
- February 2008
- January 2008
- December 2007
- November 2007
- October 2007
- September 2007
- August 2007
- July 2007
- June 2007
- May 2007
- April 2007
- March 2007
- February 2007
- January 2007

CATEGORIES

Select Category



**12**  
**Monday**  
Oct 2015

## My Thoughts on This Unconventional Pastor

Posted by KTSHIBAKA in Uncategorized

[= Leave a comment](#)

A friend sent me an [article](#) about a tattooed, trash-talking pastor in Colorado who's got a church full of God-haters, LBGTers, addicts, and spiritualists.

I think this is FANTASTIC. Except for the cussing part, which is an area in her life still needing redemption (mine too!). I didn't see anything in this article that fell short of pure awesomeness. I wish more people thought like her. Especially when she said she looked around and saw these people had no pastor and she decided to do something about it. She's a true discipler.

RE: 161 F42D A32

SHARE THIS:



338 / 0

[← Previous post](#)

LEAVE A REPLY

Enter your comment here...

Search...

Go

\* FOLLOW BLOG

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 1,110 other followers

\* RECENT POSTS

• [My Thoughts on This Unconventional Pastor](#)

- [Give Others Freedom to Minister](#)
- [How I Seek Out a Mentor](#)
- [Being a Laywer Pastor](#)
- [Waiting for Dreams to Come True](#)

\* ARCHIVES

- [October 2015](#)
- [September 2015](#)
- [June 2015](#)
- [February 2015](#)
- [October 2014](#)
- [September 2014](#)
- [April 2014](#)
- [March 2014](#)
- [February 2014](#)
- [January 2014](#)
- [December 2013](#)
- [November 2013](#)
- [October 2013](#)
- [September 2013](#)
- [August 2013](#)
- [June 2013](#)
- [May 2013](#)
- [April 2013](#)
- [March 2013](#)
- [February 2013](#)
- [January 2013](#)
- [December 2012](#)
- [November 2012](#)
- [October 2012](#)
- [September 2012](#)
- [August 2012](#)
- [July 2012](#)
- [June 2012](#)
- [May 2012](#)
- [April 2012](#)
- [March 2012](#)
- [January 2012](#)
- [December 2011](#)
- [November 2011](#)
- [October 2011](#)
- [September 2011](#)
- [August 2011](#)
- [July 2011](#)
- [April 2011](#)
- [March 2011](#)
- [February 2011](#)
- [January 2011](#)
- [December 2010](#)
- [November 2010](#)
- [October 2010](#)
- [September 2010](#)
- [August 2010](#)
- [July 2010](#)
- [June 2010](#)
- [May 2010](#)
- [April 2010](#)
- [March 2010](#)
- [February 2010](#)
- [January 2010](#)
- [December 2009](#)
- [November 2009](#)
- [October 2009](#)
- [September 2009](#)
- [August 2009](#)
- [July 2009](#)
- [June 2009](#)
- [May 2009](#)
- [March 2009](#)
- [February 2009](#)
- [January 2009](#)
- [December 2008](#)
- [November 2008](#)
- [October 2008](#)
- [September 2008](#)
- [August 2008](#)
- [July 2008](#)
- [June 2008](#)
- [May 2008](#)
- [April 2008](#)
- [March 2008](#)
- [February 2008](#)
- [January 2008](#)
- [December 2007](#)
- [November 2007](#)
- [October 2007](#)
- [September 2007](#)
- [August 2007](#)
- [July 2007](#)
- [June 2007](#)
- [May 2007](#)
- [April 2007](#)
- [March 2007](#)
- [February 2007](#)
- [January 2007](#)

\* CATEGORIES

# Kelly Tshibaka ~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional

Search...

Go



14  
Wednesday  
Oct 2013

## Leadership Quotes from Madam Secretary

Posted by KTSHIBAKA in Uncategorized

LEAVE A COMMENT

I love pulling wisdom and insight from everyday life. I heard these quotes on the show *Madam Secretary* and took note of them:

*"Where our interests are clear, our values are at stake and we can make a difference, we must act and we must lead."*

Isn't that a fantastic concept about making disciples, living as a Christian, and leadership?

*"There's plenty of room for mediocre men; there's no room for mediocre women."*

What I took from this is that women in leadership roles are held to a higher standard than men and their performance is under greater scrutiny. That's consistent with my experience. I'd love to see the day when there's no room for mediocrity in leaders, regardless of their gender.

10/24/13 2:20

SHARE THIS:



1,338 0

← Previous post

LEAVE A REPLY

Enter your comment here...

Search...

Go

FOLLOW BLOG

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 1,110 other followers

What you should add this

Follow

RECENT POSTS

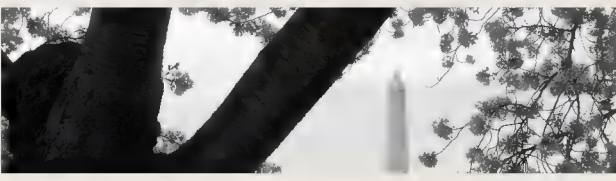
- Leadership Quotes from Madam Secretary
- My Thoughts on This Unconventional Pastor
- Give Others Freedom to Minister
- How I Seek Out a Mentor
- Being a Lawyer-Pastor

ARCHIVES

- October 2015
- September 2015
- June 2015
- February 2015
- October 2014
- September 2014
- April 2014
- March 2014
- February 2014
- January 2014
- December 2013
- November 2013
- October 2013
- September 2013
- August 2013
- June 2013
- May 2013
- April 2013
- March 2013
- February 2013
- January 2013
- December 2012
- November 2012
- October 2012
- September 2012
- August 2012
- July 2012
- June 2012
- May 2012
- April 2012
- March 2012
- January 2012
- December 2011
- November 2011
- October 2011
- September 2011
- August 2011
- July 2011
- April 2011
- March 2011
- February 2011
- January 2011
- December 2010
- November 2010
- October 2010
- September 2010
- August 2010
- July 2010
- June 2010
- May 2010
- April 2010
- March 2010
- February 2010
- January 2010
- December 2009
- November 2009
- October 2009
- September 2009
- August 2009
- July 2009
- June 2009
- May 2009
- March 2009
- February 2009
- January 2009
- December 2008
- November 2008
- October 2008
- September 2008
- August 2008
- July 2008
- June 2008
- May 2008
- April 2008
- March 2008
- February 2008
- January 2008
- December 2007
- November 2007
- October 2007
- September 2007
- August 2007
- July 2007
- June 2007
- May 2007
- April 2007
- March 2007
- February 2007
- January 2007

CATEGORIES

Select Category



MONTHLY ARCHIVES: FEBRUARY 2014

25  
Tuesday  
Feb 2014

## Siah's 2014 goals

POSTED BY KTSHBKA IN KID STORIES

= LEAVE A COMMENT

Siah did a 2014 project at school. I loved his answers and the insight it gave me into him:

Two new goals I have for this year:

1. To get higher grades
2. To study

Something I like to stop doing:

1. Stop getting yellows (behavior demerits)

A new place I'd like to go:

1. Congo

Four things I want to learn:

1. Division
2. Multiplication
3. How to add fractions
4. How to subtract fractions

SHARE THIS: [Twitter](#) [Facebook](#) [Email](#) [LinkedIn](#) [More](#)

1,338 Views

Search...

\* FOLLOW BLOG  
Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 1,110 other followers

\* RECENT POSTS

- Leadership Quotes from Madison Secretary
- My Thoughts on This Unconventional Pastor
- Give Others Freedom to Minister
- How I Seek Out a Mentor
- Being a Laywer-Pastor

\* ARCHIVES

- October 2015
- September 2015
- June 2015
- February 2015
- October 2014
- September 2014
- April 2014
- March 2014
- February 2014
- January 2014
- December 2013
- November 2013
- October 2013
- September 2013
- August 2013
- June 2013
- May 2013
- April 2013
- March 2013
- February 2013
- January 2013
- December 2012
- November 2012
- October 2012
- September 2012
- August 2012
- July 2012
- June 2012
- May 2012
- April 2012
- March 2012
- January 2012
- December 2011
- November 2011
- October 2011
- September 2011
- August 2011
- July 2011
- April 2011
- March 2011
- February 2011
- January 2011
- December 2010
- November 2010
- October 2010
- September 2010
- August 2010
- July 2010
- June 2010
- May 2010
- April 2010
- March 2010
- February 2010
- January 2010
- December 2009
- November 2009
- October 2009
- September 2009
- August 2009
- July 2009
- June 2009
- May 2009
- March 2009
- February 2009
- January 2009
- December 2008
- November 2008
- October 2008
- September 2008
- August 2008
- July 2008
- June 2008
- May 2008
- April 2008
- March 2008
- February 2008
- January 2008
- December 2007
- November 2007
- October 2007
- September 2007
- August 2007
- July 2007
- June 2007
- May 2007
- April 2007
- March 2007
- February 2007
- January 2007

\* CATEGORIES

Select Category

IMAGE

20  
Monday  
Feb 2014

## This Made Me Laugh!

POSTED BY KTSHBKA IN PUPPY

= LEAVE A COMMENT

From a friend:

Today I had to be super persuasive trying to get stuff done in time. I was positive but persistent! And people were actually persuaded!!!! Yes it was the grace of God, I am sure, but all afternoon, I was thinking, "This is incredible! I wonder if this is how Kelly feels all the time..."

SHARE THIS: [Twitter](#) [Facebook](#) [Email](#) [LinkedIn](#) [More](#)

1,338 Views

POSTED BY KTSHBKA | FILED UNDER Uncategorized

= LEAVE A COMMENT

IMAGE

20  
Thursday  
Feb 2014

## So Excited to Hold You Tomorrow!



SHARE THIS: [Twitter](#) [Facebook](#) [Email](#) [LinkedIn](#) [More](#)

1,338 Views

POSTED BY KTSHBKA | FILED UNDER Uncategorized

= LEAVE A COMMENT

IMAGE

19  
Wednesday  
Feb 2014

## 2 Days Til Baby Girl



SHARE THIS: [Twitter](#) [Facebook](#) [Email](#) [LinkedIn](#) [More](#)

1,338 Views

POSTED BY KTSHBKA | FILED UNDER Uncategorized

= 2 COMMENTS

18  
Tuesday  
Feb 2014

## Clay or Potsherd?

POSTED BY KTSHBKA IN DEEP THOUGHTS, LEADERSHIP, MINISTRY, MY SPIRITUAL JOURNEY, SPIRITUAL TRUTHS

= LEAVE A COMMENT

(A reflection from Pastor Marlon Ingegner)

A potsherd is a broken piece of pottery. These are generally found in archaeological sites but the Bible uses this word to create a powerful word picture.

But indeed, O man, who are you to reply against God? Will the thing formed say to him who formed it, "Why have you made me like this?" 21 Does not the potter have power over the clay, from the same lump to make one vessel for honor and another for dishonor? Romans 9:20-21

"Woe to him who strives with his Maker! Let the potsherd strive with the potsheds of the earth! Shall the clay say to him who forms it, 'What are you making?' Or shall your handwork say, 'He has no hands?'" Isaiah 45:9

This word picture of a potsherd is so vivid that it shouts out for a response. We are but potsherds... broken, unused, and tossed to the wayside until the gospel comes to our life. When it does... these broken, unused, and tossed to the wayside "potsherds" often rise up against the way the Lord wants to shape, restore, and revision our lives. We are potsherds restored by the cross. This perspective reminds us that we do not own our life but we are slaves to the gospel. We are on His mission and not our own.

Lord, I remember that I am but a potsherd restored by your amazing grace. Your love has given me new purpose. You sacrificed your life for me, therefore, the purpose and destiny of my life is in your hands. Open my heart to hear greater purpose and to know that I am on mission with you. Lord, may I become more intentional about life and ministry. I pray that I am reminded that I was once a potsherd without purpose; but now, I am the righteousness of God in Christ Jesus. (2 Corinthians 5:21).

May our ears be open to hear what You want to say in regards to anything that must come into alignment with Your purposes. Remind us all that we are no longer potsherds but we are clay in Your hand... We invite you to do and say as You will in our lives.

SHARE THIS: [Twitter](#) [Facebook](#) [Email](#) [LinkedIn](#) [More](#)

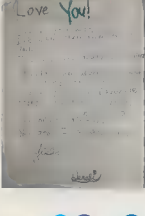
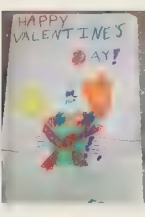
1,338 Views

14  
Friday  
Feb 2014

## Button's Valentine's Day Card to Us

POSTED BY KTSHBKA IN KID STORIES

= 1 COMMENT



SHARE THIS: [Twitter](#) [Facebook](#) [Email](#) [LinkedIn](#) [More](#)

1,338 Views

10  
Monday  
Feb 2014

## Worth

POSTED BY KTSHBKA IN Uncategorized

= LEAVE A COMMENT

"My worth is not measured in how much I accomplish, but how much I love."

SHARE THIS: [Twitter](#) [Facebook](#) [Email](#) [LinkedIn](#) [More](#)

1,338 Views

POSTED BY KTSHBKA IN Uncategorized

= 1 COMMENT

"Those who are easily led are not easily followed."

SHARE THIS: [Twitter](#) [Facebook](#) [Email](#) [LinkedIn](#) [More](#)

1,338 Views

07  
Friday  
Feb 2014

## Flooding the Bathroom

POSTED BY KTSHBKA IN RASBING KIDS

= LEAVE A COMMENT

JoFish filled the tub to the brim and jumped in, flooding the bathroom. Why. You ask? Because when filled to the brim, it looks like a swimming pool...

SHARE THIS: [Twitter](#) [Facebook](#) [Email](#) [LinkedIn](#) [More](#)

1,338 Views

Tags

Parenting

← Older posts



# Kelly Tshibaka ~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional

Search...

Go



MONTHLY ARCHIVES: OCTOBER 2014

09  
Thursday  
Oct 2014

## Heavy Teacher

POSTED BY KTSHIBAKA IN UNCATEGORIZED

1 COMMENT

Siah: "I think my teacher is trying to lose weight."

Me: "Why? Is she heavy?"

Siah, totally straight faced: "I don't know. I've never tried to pick her up."

SHARE THIS



More

1,348 Views

Search...

Go

### FOLLOW BLOG

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 1,110 other followers

What you should add to it

Follow

### RECENT POSTS

- Leadership Quotes from Madam Secretary
- My Thoughts on This Unconventional Pastor
- Give Others Freedom to Minister
- How I Seek Out a Mentor
- Being a Lawyer-Pastor

### ARCHIVES

- October 2015
- September 2015
- June 2015
- February 2015
- October 2014
- September 2014
- April 2014
- March 2014
- February 2014
- January 2014
- December 2013
- November 2013
- October 2013
- September 2013
- August 2013
- June 2013
- May 2013
- April 2013
- March 2013
- February 2013
- January 2013
- December 2012
- November 2012
- October 2012
- September 2012
- August 2012
- July 2012
- June 2012
- May 2012
- April 2012
- March 2012
- January 2012
- December 2011
- November 2011
- October 2011
- September 2011
- August 2011
- July 2011
- April 2011
- March 2011
- February 2011
- January 2011
- December 2010
- November 2010
- October 2010
- September 2010
- August 2010
- July 2010
- June 2010
- May 2010
- April 2010
- March 2010
- February 2010
- January 2010
- December 2009
- November 2009
- October 2009
- September 2009
- August 2009
- July 2009
- June 2009
- May 2009
- March 2009
- February 2009
- January 2009
- December 2008
- November 2008
- October 2008
- September 2008
- August 2008
- July 2008
- June 2008
- May 2008
- April 2008
- March 2008
- February 2008
- January 2008
- December 2007
- November 2007
- October 2007
- September 2007
- August 2007
- July 2007
- June 2007
- May 2007
- April 2007
- March 2007
- February 2007
- January 2007

### CATEGORIES

Select Category



MONTHLY ARCHIVES: MARCH 2014

**18**  
Tuesday  
Mar 2014

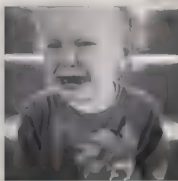
## Sometimes I think I'm in charge...

POSTED BY KTSHIBAKA IN PUNNY, RAISING KIDS

2 COMMENTS

But then I have to sit on this step...

Tags  
Parenting



SHARE THIS:



... 338 ...

Search... Go

**FOLLOW BLOG**  
Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.  
Join 1,116 other followers.

What you would add to it

Follow

**RECENT POSTS**

- Leadership Quotes from Madam Secretary
- My Thoughts on This Unconventional Pastor
- Give Others Freedom to Minister
- How I Seek Out a Mentor
- Being a Lawyer-Pastor

**ARCHIVES**

- October 2015
- September 2015
- June 2015
- February 2015
- October 2014
- September 2014
- April 2014
- March 2014
- February 2014
- January 2014
- December 2013
- November 2013
- October 2013
- September 2013
- August 2013
- June 2013
- May 2013
- April 2013
- March 2013
- February 2013
- January 2013
- December 2012
- November 2012
- October 2012
- September 2012
- August 2012
- July 2012
- June 2012
- May 2012
- April 2012
- March 2012
- January 2012
- December 2011
- November 2011
- October 2011
- September 2011
- August 2011
- July 2011
- April 2011
- March 2011
- February 2011
- January 2011
- December 2010
- November 2010
- October 2010
- September 2010
- August 2010
- July 2010
- June 2010
- May 2010
- April 2010
- March 2010
- February 2010
- January 2010
- December 2009
- November 2009
- October 2009
- September 2009
- August 2009
- July 2009
- June 2009
- May 2009
- March 2009
- February 2009
- January 2009
- December 2008
- November 2008
- October 2008
- September 2008
- August 2008
- July 2008
- June 2008
- May 2008
- April 2008
- March 2008
- February 2008
- January 2008
- December 2007
- November 2007
- October 2007
- September 2007
- August 2007
- July 2007
- June 2007
- May 2007
- April 2007
- March 2007
- February 2007
- January 2007

**CATEGORIES**

Select Category



MONTHLY ARCHIVES: OCTOBER 2015

14  
Wednesday  
OCT 2015

## Leadership Quotes from Madam Secretary

POSTED BY KTSHBKA IN Uncategorized

= LEAVE A COMMENT

I love pulling wisdom and insight from everyday life. I heard these quotes on the show Madam Secretary and took note of them:

*"Where our interests are clear, our values are at stake and we can make a difference, we must act and we must lead."*

Isn't that a fantastic concept about making disciples, living as a Christian, and leadership?

*"There's plenty of room for mediocre men; there's no room for mediocre women."*

What I took from this is that women in leadership roles are held to a higher standard than men and their performance is under greater scrutiny. That's consistent with my experience. I'd love to see the day when there's no room for mediocrity in leaders, regardless of their gender.

SHARE THIS: [Twitter](#) [Facebook](#) [Email](#) [LinkedIn](#) [More](#)

~ 338 ~ (0)

12  
Monday  
OCT 2015

## My Thoughts on This Unconventional Pastor

POSTED BY KTSHBKA IN Uncategorized

= LEAVE A COMMENT

A friend sent me an [article](#) about a tattooed, trash-talking pastor in Colorado who's got a church full of God-haters, LGBTers, addicts, and spiritualists.

I think this is FANTASTIC. Except for the cussing part, which is an area in her life still needing redemption (mine too). I didn't see anything in this article that felt short of pure awesomeness. I wish more people thought like her. Especially when she said she looked around and saw these people had no pastor and she decided to do something about it. She's a true discipler.

SHARE THIS: [Twitter](#) [Facebook](#) [Email](#) [LinkedIn](#) [More](#)

~ 338 ~ (0)

08  
Thursday  
OCT 2015

## Give Others Freedom to Minister

POSTED BY KTSHBKA IN Uncategorized

= LEAVE A COMMENT

I read this article because I love reading about leadership (<https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/on-leadership/wp/2015/07/21/on-big-move-acemire-will-get-rid-of-annual-performance-reviews-and-rankings/>). This quote stood out to me:

*"The art of leadership is not to spend your time measuring, evaluating," Nanterme said. "It's all about selecting the person. And if you believe you selected the right person, then you give that person the freedom, the authority, the delegation to innovate and to lead with some very simple measure." "*

While the author is talking about performance reviews in a professional context, I couldn't help but think about leadership development (a.k.a. "discipling") in a Christian ministry context. "You didn't choose Me, but I chose you," Jesus said. So all these Christians around me — in my church, in my community, in my social circles — must be the "right person." After all, HE picked them!

So applying Nanterme's successful philosophy to ministry supports the idea that the best way to raise up leaders is give them the freedom, authority, and responsibility to lead. And their standard for success — both in my eyes and in theirs — has got to be simple.

Simple. Intentional. Relational. This is discipling.

SHARE THIS: [Twitter](#) [Facebook](#) [Email](#) [LinkedIn](#) [More](#)

~ 338 ~ (0)

06  
Tuesday  
OCT 2015

## How I Seek Out a Mentor

POSTED BY KTSHBKA IN Uncategorized

= 1 COMMENT

I've heard different approaches about finding a mentor — waiting for someone to approach you, or approaching them yourself. Only one of my mentors has approached me; all the other ones came from relationships I've cultivated.

But, man, it can be awkward putting yourself out there all like, "Hey...I admire you...will you invest in me while I'm still a nobody?" I mean, that's not "actually" how I say it. But that's what it feels like. I've learned to be ok with a "no" and not to take it as rejection. After all, I'm asking some pretty significant, busy, results-driven people to take time out of their schedule for me. A "no" is probably more about their commitments than it is about me.

So here are some emails I sent recently to give you an idea of how I seek a mentor. You'll see a common theme: be specific in what I'm seeking and why, provide a timeframe, and give an easy out. One of these respondents said no, and the other one said yes. Please feel free to use these in seeking out mentors of your own. And offer to mentor others, too (I try to have 2+ mentees for every mentor — and right now I have 4 active mentors).

Hi, POTENTIAL MENTOR,

*I'm interested in learning as much as I can from you, and I was wondering if you could mentor me directly? I envision this as meeting twice a month for 30 minutes (could even be lunch or morning coffee/breakfast) or once a month for an hour, and we would discuss 1) questions I have about how you operate and what you've learned (e.g., how do you get people to follow, how do you identify talent, how do you address certain challenges); 2) your perspective on any issues, decisions, or opportunities I'm facing; and 3) any feedback or ideas you have for me that would help me grow.*

*I know you're extremely busy, and so I totally understand if this won't work to your schedule right now. But if it does, then I'm excited about learning everything I can from you!*

Thanks so much,  
ME

Hi, POTENTIAL MENTOR!

Congratulations on your RECENT CAREER DEVELOPMENT.

The last time we spoke I was SHORT CAREER RECAP. I'm currently SHORT CAREER STATEMENT.

Also during this time, I'm working with a professional coach. We've spent the last couple months identifying and distilling my core values as a leader — who I want to be and how I want to live. As part of this process, my coach asked me if I knew of anyone who embodied these values—you were the first person who came to mind.

While I can learn from you from a distance, I realize I would learn so much more about leadership from you directly. So I wanted to reach out to see if you'd be interested in mentoring me? I envision this looking like meeting up once every 4-6 weeks about 10-15 times for me to ask questions, get your take on current challenges I'm experiencing, and hear from you anything you think is valuable to pass on. Alternatively, if that doesn't work for you time-wise, would you be open to meeting up just once in the next couple months?

Thanks so much,

SHARE THIS: [Twitter](#) [Facebook](#) [Email](#) [LinkedIn](#) [More](#)

~ 338 ~ (0)

02  
Friday  
OCT 2015

## Being a Lawyer-Pastor

POSTED BY KTSHBKA IN Uncategorized

= 2 COMMENTS

An aspiring Christian lawyer asked me about how other pastors react to us, and whether they looked down on us. Here are my thoughts:

And about your question regarding how other pastors have reacted to us — we didn't do ministry until after we'd been practicing for 4 years. And our circle, if you will, wasn't so much ministry people as it was lawyers. Most of them thought it was "cool," but we definitely felt like a lot of them looked down on us. We were surprised, for example, that of our 100 or so friends and contacts in the DC area, only about 5 of them came to our church (even once). Especially after Niki left the practice of law, we didn't feel like we really "belonged" in our lawyers' circle anymore.

I think now that we're in ministry, we've experienced mostly admiration and favor from pastors and people in ministry. Mostly... there have been times when I have encountered passive responses that feel something like "you're not really pastors...you didn't go to Bible college or get a higher degree in theology/seminary."

All that to say — I don't worry much at all about how others respond. It's taken me a long time to work this out within me, mostly because I'm an atypical female (bold, powerful upfront, highly educated, assertive, etc.) who also is in ministry leadership (even more atypical). I've come to realize and accept that God didn't make a mistake when He made me. I can adjust, mature, grow, and become more like Him, but I'm morph too much to fit the expectations/discomfort of others. I start to look less like Him and more like the outcome of a Gallup poll.

It sounds like God has given you a passion for the law and for Him. That's not a mistake, and He has a plan for you in that. It might not look like anything you (or those around you) have seen before, but it's not a problem/wrong/ineffective/detrimental to your ministry. It's Him in you. I believe He has a unique way for you to live out this calling, and He'll lead you as you pioneer this trail. When you look back behind you, you'll see His hand in it all, and God willing, you'll see other people walking confidently down the path you blazed.

SHARE THIS: [Twitter](#) [Facebook](#) [Email](#) [LinkedIn](#) [More](#)

~ 338 ~ (0)

Search...

\* FOLLOW BLOG  
Enter your email address to follow the blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 1,110 other followers

\* RECENT POSTS

- Leadership Quotes from Madam Secretary
- My Thoughts on This Unconventional Pastor
- Give Others Freedom to Minister
- How I Seek Out a Mentor
- Being a Lawyer-Pastor

\* ARCHIVES

- October 2015
- September 2015
- June 2015
- February 2015
- October 2014
- September 2014
- April 2014
- March 2014
- February 2014
- January 2014
- December 2013
- November 2013
- October 2013
- September 2013
- August 2013
- June 2013
- May 2013
- April 2013
- March 2013
- February 2013
- January 2013
- December 2012
- November 2012
- October 2012
- September 2012
- August 2012
- July 2012
- June 2012
- May 2012
- April 2012
- March 2012
- January 2012
- December 2011
- November 2011
- October 2011
- September 2011
- August 2011
- July 2011
- April 2011
- March 2011
- February 2011
- January 2011
- December 2010
- November 2010
- October 2010
- September 2010
- August 2010
- July 2010
- June 2010
- May 2010
- April 2010
- March 2010
- February 2010
- January 2010
- December 2009
- November 2009
- October 2009
- September 2009
- August 2009
- July 2009
- June 2009
- May 2009
- March 2009
- February 2009
- January 2009
- December 2008
- November 2008
- October 2008
- September 2008
- August 2008
- July 2008
- June 2008
- May 2008
- April 2008
- March 2008
- February 2008
- January 2008
- December 2007
- November 2007
- October 2007
- September 2007
- August 2007
- July 2007
- June 2007
- May 2007
- April 2007
- March 2007
- February 2007
- January 2007

\* CATEGORIES

Select Category ▼

# Kelly Tshibaka ~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional

Search...

Go



MONTHLY ARCHIVES: SEPTEMBER 2014

25  
Thursday  
Sep 2014

## Sword in the Sheath

POSTED BY KTSHBKA IN Uncategorized

1 COMMENT

Niki told Siah that when he was a kid and was having a hard time sleeping, he would keep his Bible open on the side of his bed. There was something comforting just about having it opened near him.

The next day Siah came to him: "Dad, I think I figured out why it's so much better to have the Bible opened than closed."

"Why, son?"

"Well because it says in the Bible that the word of God is like a sword, right? Well when the Bible is closed, it's like a sword in its sheath. But when it's open, it's unsheathed!"

SHARE THIS: [Twitter](#) [Facebook](#) [Email](#) [LinkedIn](#) [More](#)

1 COMMENT

22  
Monday  
Sep 2014

## Mushrooms

POSTED BY KTSHBKA IN Uncategorized

1 COMMENT

The kids and I were out walking around the neighborhood. We found a lot of wild mushrooms, but decided against picking them to eat since we weren't sure whether they were edible. As Siah and I were walking home, he mused, "Mama, I think God sends an angel down to pick all the mushrooms people don't pick so they don't go to waste and they can eat them in Heaven."

"That's a great theory, Siah. But we want to be careful about developing theories into theology apart from a Bible verse. Make sure you have a Bible verse to support your ideas before you run with them, otherwise we can get ourselves into trouble. So, do you have a Bible verse that supports your idea that the angels pick mushrooms so Heaven can eat them?"

I knew he wouldn't — first, there are no angels-picking-mushrooms verses, and second, I was thinking of things like how God does not sleep and there is no marriage in Heaven, and so we can infer that life in Heaven is very different than life here.

After thinking for a very short bit, Siah smiled and said, "Yep! In the Bible it says that there's going to be a great wedding feast in Heaven, and there's going to need to be food at the wedding. So that means there's food in Heaven, which means there's mushrooms in Heaven. And where are they going to get the mushrooms from? I bet it's from here — from all these mushrooms the people aren't using!"

I was amazed! "Siah, you have a really great point! And you've changed my thinking about this. I bet there ARE mushrooms in Heaven, and it's possible that God has angels pick those mushrooms!"

SHARE THIS: [Twitter](#) [Facebook](#) [Email](#) [LinkedIn](#) [More](#)

1 COMMENT

Search... Go

FOLLOW BLOG  
Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.  
Join 1,116 other followers

What you should add via  
Follow

- RECENT POSTS
- Leadership Quotes from Madam Secretary
  - My Thoughts on This Unconventional Pastor
  - Give Others Freedom to Minister
  - How I Seer Out a Mentor
  - Being a Layoff-Pastor

ARCHIVES

- October 2015
- September 2015
- June 2015
- February 2015
- October 2014
- September 2014
- April 2014
- March 2014
- February 2014
- January 2014
- December 2013
- November 2013
- October 2013
- September 2013
- August 2013
- June 2013
- May 2013
- April 2013
- March 2013
- February 2013
- January 2013
- December 2012
- November 2012
- October 2012
- September 2012
- August 2012
- July 2012
- June 2012
- May 2012
- April 2012
- March 2012
- January 2012
- December 2011
- November 2011
- October 2011
- September 2011
- August 2011
- July 2011
- April 2011
- March 2011
- February 2011
- January 2011
- December 2010
- November 2010
- October 2010
- September 2010
- August 2010
- July 2010
- June 2010
- May 2010
- April 2010
- March 2010
- February 2010
- January 2010
- December 2009
- November 2009
- October 2009
- September 2009
- August 2009
- July 2009
- June 2009
- May 2009
- March 2009
- February 2009
- January 2009
- December 2008
- November 2008
- October 2008
- September 2008
- August 2008
- July 2008
- June 2008
- May 2008
- April 2008
- March 2008
- February 2008
- January 2008
- December 2007
- November 2007
- October 2007
- September 2007
- August 2007
- July 2007
- June 2007
- May 2007
- April 2007
- March 2007
- February 2007
- January 2007

CATEGORIES  
Select Category





MONTHLY ARCHIVES: APRIL 2014

**27**  
 Sunday  
 Apr 2014

## Credit Where Credit's Due

POSTED BY KTSHIBAKA IN KID STORIES

= LEAVE A COMMENT

"Eloa has got good looks. She inherited them from me. Of course mommy and daddy will try to take credit." ~Button

Tags

Parenting

 SHARE THIS: [t](#) [f](#) [e](#) [in](#) [More](#)

- 338 - 0

**22**  
 Tuesday  
 Apr 2014

## Disappointments in Ministry

POSTED BY KTSHIBAKA IN LEADERSHIP, MINISTRY

= 1 COMMENT

For some reason the disappointments and pains of ministry have a way of affecting us more than the successes. Just like how we are more cognizant of Judas's betrayal than John's devotion, it can be so easy to let disappointments like this week overshadow successes like last week. We may have lost a battle, but we are still committed to the war. That's the key! Reminds me of that great rhetorical question in the Hobbit: Desolation of Smaug — when did we let evil become more powerful than us? We can't and we won't.

It's so hard when you want something good for others more than they want it for themselves. I've found that to be one of the most challenging and heartbreaking parts of ministry. Here are two things I've found that help: 1) meditating on the times when Jesus has felt about me the way I feel about the person(s) who disappointed me, and 2) keeping a list of successes that I can go back to remind myself of the good I did.

Your success in ministry will be determined by whether you are consumed with the pain of the past or the potential of the future. A list of successes helps me to stay focused on what matters (for the joy set before Him...)

Tags

Pastoring

 SHARE THIS: [t](#) [f](#) [e](#) [in](#) [More](#)

- 338 - 0

**21**  
 Monday  
 Apr 2014

## Awkward Moment of the Day

POSTED BY KTSHIBAKA IN PUNNY, LUD STORIES

= LEAVE A COMMENT

Siah shouting at the front door, "Mom! Dad! There's a creepy guy at the door and he looks like President Obama!"

Tags

Parenting

 SHARE THIS: [t](#) [f](#) [e](#) [in](#) [More](#)

- 338 - 0

IMAGE

**19**  
 Saturday  
 Apr 2014

## Happy Easter!



Tags

Parenting

 SHARE THIS: [t](#) [f](#) [e](#) [in](#) [More](#)

- 338 - 0

POSTED BY KTSHIBAKA | FILED UNDER KID STORIES

= 1 COMMENT

**18**  
 Friday  
 Apr 2014

## I'm Not the World's Greatest Cook

POSTED BY KTSHIBAKA IN PUNNY, RAISING KIDS

= LEAVE A COMMENT

I can bake up a storm. I can bust out Moroccan bastilla and fresh apple crumble like nobody's business. And I can also set off the fire alarms on a semi-regular basis. What can I say? I'm not the world's greatest cook. But I'm cool with it!

Tags

Parenting

 SHARE THIS: [t](#) [f](#) [e](#) [in](#) [More](#)

- 338 - 0


**17**  
 Thursday  
 Apr 2014

## A Psalm I Wrote in the Caves where David Hid from Saul

POSTED BY KTSHIBAKA IN UNCATEGORIZED

= 2 COMMENTS

I sing my praises to You, Lord

Yes I sing for Your faithfulness  
 A faithfulness unheard of  
 Only dreamed of by those who don't know You  
 Who is like You, Lord?  
 None can deliver like You  
 You comfort me and fight for me  
 at the same time  
 You promised victory over those who tried to  
 destroy me with their tongues  
 And You did it  
 You did what You said  
 When I couldn't see  
 You said "Trust in Me  
 I See  
 The perspective is different from here."  
 You led me and guided me  
 You never left me  
 Though it hurt  
 I screamed, I sobbed, I was afraid  
 "I will deliver you. I will protect you.  
 I will shut the mouths of the lions.  
 Believe  
 And see  
 See differently."  
 You turned the tables  
 against my enemies  
 Against those who sought to destroy me  
 Your justice prevailed  
 Your truth saved me  
 You cleaned my name and redeemed it  
 You spared me from shame  
 There was nothing I could do to save myself  
 My efforts were to no avail  
 I labored to defend myself  
 But it was pointless  
 I cannot trust in my own strength  
 I cannot trust in people, friends, or my performance  
 to protect me  
 My trust is in You alone  
 You alone saved me  
 delivered me  
 guided me  
 protected me  
 Because You love me  
 My freedom is attributable to You alone  
 All praise and honor and glory to You  
 It ended up better than I ever could imagine  
 Because of You  
 Every word of Your Word came true  
 You said it, I believed it  
 You brought it to pass  
 When everything else changed,  
 all that was true became false,  
 the ground fell out from under me,  
 and friends turned against me  
 You were the SAME  
 You were TRUE  
 You were MY ROCK  
 You were MY FRIEND  
 And I sing a new song to the One True God,  
 my Rock, my Friend, whose faithfulness never ends!

Tags

 SHARE THIS: [t](#) [f](#) [e](#) [in](#) [More](#)

- 338 - 0

Search... Go

\* FOLLOW BLOG

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 1,116 other followers

Follow

\* RECENT POSTS

- Leadership Quotes from Madam Secretary
- My Thoughts on This Unconventional Pastor
- Give Others Freedom to Minister
- How I Seek Out a Mentor
- Being a Lawyer-Pastor

\* ARCHIVES

- October 2015
- September 2015
- June 2015
- February 2015
- October 2014
- September 2014
- April 2014
- March 2014
- February 2014
- January 2014
- December 2013
- November 2013
- October 2013
- September 2013
- August 2013
- June 2013
- May 2013
- April 2013
- March 2013
- February 2013
- January 2013
- December 2012
- November 2012
- October 2012
- September 2012
- August 2012
- July 2012
- June 2012
- May 2012
- April 2012
- March 2012
- January 2012
- December 2011
- November 2011
- October 2011
- September 2011
- August 2011
- July 2011
- April 2011
- March 2011
- February 2011
- January 2011
- December 2010
- November 2010
- October 2010
- September 2010
- August 2010
- July 2010
- June 2010
- May 2010
- April 2010
- March 2010
- February 2010
- January 2010
- December 2009
- November 2009
- October 2009
- September 2009
- August 2009
- July 2009
- June 2009
- May 2009
- March 2009
- February 2009
- January 2009
- December 2008
- November 2008
- October 2008
- September 2008
- August 2008
- July 2008
- June 2008
- May 2008
- April 2008
- March 2008
- February 2008
- January 2008
- December 2007
- November 2007
- October 2007
- September 2007
- August 2007
- July 2007
- June 2007
- May 2007
- April 2007
- March 2007
- February 2007
- January 2007

\* CATEGORIES

Select Category

# Kelly Tshibaka ~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional

Search...

Go



MONTHLY ARCHIVES: FEBRUARY 2015

11  
Wednesday  
Feb 2015

## Principles for Helping Me Remain Open to Submitting to God's Plan for My Life

Posted by KTSHBKA in Uncategorized

2 Comments

My top life value is to follow Jesus with all my heart, including to listen and obey instantly and to trust Him (I'm currently really challenged in this area, but hey — I'm committed to this with all my heart, no matter how hard it is). If I summarized the principles, I think it would go something like:

1. If I think God has said/prompted me in a direction, I just go for it. I might be wrong, but I'd rather err on the side of faith than doubt. I figure God will honor that and clean up my messes if I heard wrong.
2. Act quickly once I've heard. The longer I sit on a word/prompting, the less likely I am to act on it.
3. Be accountable to others who are familiar with hearing God and seek wisdom in many counselors (who are Jesus followers).
4. Every word of the Lord has to be consistent with the Bible.
5. Know myself and who He has made me to be. I've benefited from the Grip Birkman (you can order this test through churchsmart.com), professional coaching, knowing my spiritual gifts, and identifying my core values. This has helped me to know what to focus on and what not to. . .)
6. I know the ways of the Kingdom often are upside down from the ways of the world (last shall be first, greatest is least, etc.). So I'm open to upside down ideas or thinking because that just might be exactly where God is.
7. Every day spent loving God and loving people is a day well spent.

SHARE THIS:



1 Comment

Search...

Go

### FOLLOW BLOG

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 1,116 other followers

What you should read this

Follow

### RECENT POSTS

- Leadership Quotes from Madam Secretary
- My Thoughts on This Unconventional Pastor
- Give Others Freedom to Minister
- How I Seer Out a Mentor
- Being a Laywer-Pastor

### ARCHIVES

- October 2015
- September 2015
- June 2015
- February 2015
- October 2014
- September 2014
- April 2014
- March 2014
- February 2014
- January 2014
- December 2013
- November 2013
- October 2013
- September 2013
- August 2013
- June 2013
- May 2013
- April 2013
- March 2013
- February 2013
- January 2013
- December 2012
- November 2012
- October 2012
- September 2012
- August 2012
- July 2012
- June 2012
- May 2012
- April 2012
- March 2012
- January 2012
- December 2011
- November 2011
- October 2011
- September 2011
- August 2011
- July 2011
- April 2011
- March 2011
- February 2011
- January 2011
- December 2010
- November 2010
- October 2010
- September 2010
- August 2010
- July 2010
- June 2010
- May 2010
- April 2010
- March 2010
- February 2010
- January 2010
- December 2009
- November 2009
- October 2009
- September 2009
- August 2009
- July 2009
- June 2009
- May 2009
- March 2009
- February 2009
- January 2009
- December 2008
- November 2008
- October 2008
- September 2008
- August 2008
- July 2008
- June 2008
- May 2008
- April 2008
- March 2008
- February 2008
- January 2008
- December 2007
- November 2007
- October 2007
- September 2007
- August 2007
- July 2007
- June 2007
- May 2007
- April 2007
- March 2007
- February 2007
- January 2007

### CATEGORIES

Select Category



MONTHLY ARCHIVES: JUNE 2015

23  
Tuesday  
Jun 2015

## How to Handle Fear and Panic at Work

POSTED BY KTSHBKA IN UNCATEGORIZED

1 LEAVE A COMMENT

A friend recently wrote me about experiencing fear and panic while going out for a new job. I've been there. The paralyzing panic attacks are all too familiar (and I'm not naturally inclined towards panic). I'm "so" sorry anyone goes through this.

Here's what's helped me in those times. This is what I meditate on: His Name is the hope of all the earth. He is your Protector, Provider, and Promoter. He exists and He humbles. He sets up rulers and leaders. Your times are in His hand. Nothing can separate you from His love. Neither death nor life, nor money nor poverty, nor promotion nor demotion. This decision has no reflection on who you are, who He is, how much He loves you, and how much He believes in you. There is nothing that can happen to you that He doesn't allow. He's got this. And He knows how to give good gifts to His children. And He knows the plans and purposes He has for you. Rejoice when you encounter various trials, knowing that the testing of your faith produces endurance. And let endurance have it's perfect result, so you will be perfect and complete, lacking nothing. He has set you in a broad place. He has delivered you because He delights in you. God is good and I can trust Him no matter what. All the time. No matter what. You've got this. Go in the strength that you have. Trust the Lord for the outcome.

SHARE THIS



More

0 COMMENTS

04  
Thursday  
Jun 2015

## Charlie Charlie Challenge: How We're Guiding Our Kids as Christians

POSTED BY KTSHBKA IN UNCATEGORIZED

1 COMMENT

Recently the "Charlie Charlie Challenge" has surged on social media, leading youth and kids all around the nation to experiment with it. It's essentially a makeshift Ouija board. Youth draw a quadrant on a sheet, place two intersecting pencils on top of each other, and then ask, "Charlie, Charlie, are you there?" They then proceed to ask subsequent questions and the top pencil moves to land on the correct answer in the quadrant (e.g., yes, no, etc.) Of course, most the time the top pencil does not move. But sometimes it does. And that's because evil spirits are real and they're more than happy to respond to invitations to afflict people.

Regardless of whether the pencil moves, engaging in this "game" presents significant spiritual risk to those who play it and others who are around or exposed to it (e.g., an entire school). It's not that kids are being possessed by evil spirits (possession is the most extreme form of spiritual attack), but evil spirits can bring fear, depression, nightmares, accidents, sickness, etc. Their *modus operandi* is the same as Satan's: to steal, kill, and destroy. Whether or not the pencil moves doesn't change 1) that evil spirits are real, and 2) playing the game invites spiritual affliction.

This is the approach we're taking and how we've counseled our children with respect to this "game":

- If they witness kids playing it, walk away or don't engage (I don't want them engaging in spiritual warfare on their own against this spirit)
- If they can't remove themselves, use the opportunity to segue the conversation into a spiritual discussion (e.g., "I believe that stuff's real. There's evil spirits and they work for Satan. Satan hurts us and puts us away from God. He's the reason we die. But God loved us so much He sent His Son Jesus to die in our place, and if we believe this and trust Jesus, our spirits won't die but live forever.")
- They can pray to protect themselves and others; they can sing worship songs; and they can meditate on a Bible verse. (The Word of God is the Sword of the Spirit, so it's their best protection)
- We pray a prayer of protection over them before they leave: "In the name of Jesus Christ and by the power of His Blood and Cross, I bind up the power of any evil spirits and command them not to block these prayers. I bind up the powers of earth, air, water, fire, the netherworld and satanic forces of nature. I break any curses, hexes, or spells sent against you in Jesus' name. I cancel the assignments of any evil spirits sent against you and send them to Jesus for Him to deal with them as He will. I silence all communication in the world of evil spirits as it pertains to these children. Lord, bless our enemies and lead them to repentance. Lord, forgive those who know not what they do. And Jesus, please protect these kids with your blood and send your angels to protect them. Amen.
- We pray a prayer of cleansing over them when they return: Lord, the spiritual evil these kids encountered today is more than they can bear, so please cleanse them of any sadness, negativity, or despair that they've picked up. Cleanse them of temptations like anger, disobedience, or impatience and replace them with the fruit of your Spirit. If any evil spirits have attached themselves to, oppressed, or afflicted these kids in any way, I command you to depart now and go straight to Jesus Christ for Him to deal with you as He will. I cancel the assignments of fear, depression, jealousy, nightmares, and divination and declare them null and void, in Jesus' name. Come, Holy Spirit, and fill these kids anew with your Light, Life, and Love. We praise You, Jesus. Amen. (Prayers adapted from Dr. Francis MacNutt's prayer)

Please note — evil spirits aren't anything to be afraid of. They rarely operate like we see in the movies. Instead, they bring things like sicknesses, diseases, poverty, depression, accidents and harm, confusion, and despair (and these things aren't always caused by spirits). And it's reasonable to think we're encountering them all the time — we are behind "enemy" lines, if you will. So it's kinda like a trash collector — after a day of work, it's logical to think he's got some trash on him and needs to wash up. Same thing's true spiritually — if you're exposed to spiritual garbage, you can wash up, and the Blood of Jesus washes us whiter than snow. And, He who is in us (Jesus) is greater than he who is in the world (Satan). So there's something we can do about all this, and we "really" have no reason to fear.

If someone has played the "game" (or engaged in other spiritually dangerous activities like ouija boards, palm readers, or tarot cards), the prayer process is simple — thank Jesus for His love, grace, and healing; have the person ask Jesus to forgive them for playing (probably because they didn't know); have the person uninvite the evil spirits ("any evil spirits that have attached themselves to, oppressed, or afflicted me in any way — I don't want you here, you are not welcome here, and I command you to leave, in the name of Jesus Christ"); and then you complete the prayer by following the Prayer for Cleansing up above.

Here are some articles written on this to give you more info. I don't agree with the "it's harmless" perspective of the Post article, but it provides helpful context for what the "game" is. (As Kroyer Scott said, "the greatest trick the devil ever pulled was convincing the world he didn't exist.")

[http://www.christiantoday.com/article/summoning\\_the\\_devils\\_playing\\_charlie\\_charlie\\_game\\_poses\\_real\\_danger\\_worms\\_vision\\_exorcist/4831.htm](http://www.christiantoday.com/article/summoning_the_devils_playing_charlie_charlie_game_poses_real_danger_worms_vision_exorcist/4831.htm)  
<http://www.washingtonpost.com/news/the-intersect/wp/2015/05/26/the-complete-true-story-of-charlie-charlie-the-demonic-teen-game-sweeping-the-internet/>

I hope this helps!

SHARE THIS



More

0 COMMENTS

Search...

Go

## \* FOLLOW BLOG

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 1,116 other followers

Follow

## \* RECENT POSTS

- Leadership Quotes from Madam Secretary
- My Thoughts on This Unconventional Pastor
- Give Others Freedom to Minister
- How I Seek Out a Mentor
- Being a Lawyer-Pastor

## \* ARCHIVES

- October 2015
- September 2015
- June 2015
- February 2015
- October 2014
- September 2014
- April 2014
- March 2014
- February 2014
- January 2014
- December 2013
- November 2013
- October 2013
- September 2013
- August 2013
- June 2013
- May 2013
- April 2013
- March 2013
- February 2013
- January 2013
- December 2012
- November 2012
- October 2012
- September 2012
- August 2012
- July 2012
- June 2012
- May 2012
- April 2012
- March 2012
- January 2012
- December 2011
- November 2011
- October 2011
- September 2011
- August 2011
- July 2011
- April 2011
- March 2011
- February 2011
- January 2011
- December 2010
- November 2010
- October 2010
- September 2010
- August 2010
- July 2010
- June 2010
- May 2010
- April 2010
- March 2010
- February 2010
- January 2010
- December 2009
- November 2009
- October 2009
- March 2009
- September 2008
- August 2008
- July 2008
- June 2008
- May 2008
- April 2008
- March 2008
- February 2008
- January 2008
- December 2007
- November 2007
- October 2007
- September 2007
- August 2007
- July 2007
- June 2007
- May 2007
- April 2007
- March 2007
- February 2007
- January 2007

## \* CATEGORIES

Select Category

# Kelly Tshibaka ~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional

Search...

Go



MONTHLY ARCHIVES: SEPTEMBER 2015

**30**  
Wednesday  
SEP 2015

## Waiting for Dreams to Come True

POSTED BY KTSHBKA IN Uncategorized

= LEAVE A COMMENT

Someone recently told me that "the gifts and call are irrevocable" also means that they don't have an expiration date. In other words, just because my life currently doesn't look like I'm really using my spiritual gifts, doesn't mean they're frozen state or aren't being developed in the crucible of my career for an even more effective use later.

That's really encouraged me in this season of ridiculous balancing/juggling. I've been able to better prioritize what's critical now (marriage, kids, income) believing that a time will come when I'll be able to move more fully into my passion (ministry, writing, speaking). And in the meantime, I see God's grace in that I'm still able to do a fair amount of ministry within the boundaries I have.

The "boundary lines have fallen for me in pleasant places."

SHARE THIS: [Twitter](#) [Facebook](#) [Email](#) [LinkedIn](#) [More](#)

3398 (1)

**28**  
Monday  
SEP 2015

## How I Do "Marketplace Ministry" as a D.C. Lawyer

POSTED BY KTSHBKA IN Uncategorized

= LEAVE A COMMENT

I've also come to learn that ministry isn't separate from my career. I don't think of myself as having a "marketplace ministry," but I am intentional about being a Christian wherever I am. So that means I'm a Christian at work, too.

I've led several Bible studies at work, prayed with people, shared the Gospel, offered Biblical words of encouragement and prophetic words, said grace with (non-Christian) colleagues at lunch, given people books to read, and pastored co-workers through challenging life circumstances. I've gotten to pray for and see healing miracles, help people hear God for themselves, and even disciple colleagues into mature disciple-making ministry leaders.

In so many ways I wish I could be set free of my legal career because my heart really is in "ministry." But every time I knock (or pound...) on that door, God makes it clear that He's not opening it. There's a reason and purpose why He has me where He does. I suspect that in His thinking, "ministry" doesn't happen only in church or the Christian sub-culture. So I think of myself as assigned to minister (help, love, serve) to the people in my agency.

I'm pretty bold at work. Not for boldness-sake, but because I'm just pretty bold in general. I share stories about how God has led me and what He's done in my life. When asked why I live so differently, I tie it to the gospel. I work Bible verses into conversations in non-awkward ways. I build people up with truth. I go out of my way to think of my colleagues, listen to them, esteem them above myself, and love on them by bringing in food or giving compliments. I'm not belligerent or awkward about sharing my faith. But I'm also not ashamed. Why would I be? Look at what He's done for me!

And yes, being a visible Christian at work has cost me. It's cost me job offers and friendships. It's resulted in false accusations and vindictive vendettas. But as Rich Mullins said, "What I believe is what makes me what I am." And I am who I am, whether I'm at work, at home, or at church.

I'm a Jesus follower.

SHARE THIS: [Twitter](#) [Facebook](#) [Email](#) [LinkedIn](#) [More](#)

3398 (1)

**25**  
Friday  
SEP 2015

## Juggling It All

POSTED BY KTSHBKA IN Uncategorized

= LEAVE A COMMENT

The most frequently asked question I get is "how do you juggle it all?" Once I figure out the answers, I hope to write a book! But here's a short insight for now:

I went part-time in my career for 4 years. I worked 3.11-hour days. This gave us a solid paycheck, full benefits, and a good career. My cousin lived with us and watched the kids the days I was at work. When I was home, I watched the kids. When I went back to full-time, we got an ex-pair to help with the childcare responsibilities. This was a "pinch" move that gave us the time we needed to fulfill our responsibilities, enriched our children's lives, and provided the opportunity to disciple someone up-close-and-personal.

Niki is engaged in full-time ministry pastoring the church. He also serves as legal counsel and policy adviser (volunteer position) for an organization in the area that combats human trafficking. He also takes several missions and ministry trips a year (3-10). And he is involved in leading a couple start-up businesses, as well as an international development organization. There have been times I'm more engaged in ministry (preached most of 1 year, taken ministry trips, etc.). But since our fifth child was born, I've been less engaged with church and ministry than in the past.

Before going part-time, we had the kids in full-time daycare for awhile. That allowed me to work full-time while also giving Niki the time he needed to do ministry. But it also cost a ton of money (later for about a year or so, Niki watched the kids at home during the day). There have been seasons where we have been more and less involved with the operations and ministry of the church. We focus on raising up ministry leaders, so when we've needed to pull back, we've had people who step in to help us. Between job demands, difficult pregnancies, parental leave, the loss of a baby, etc., life sometimes has required less energy/focus on ministry.

We try to keep our ministry-related commitments to less than 3 a week, including Sunday. So that means no more than 2 evening appointments, counseling times, etc. during the week. We found that gives us enough space for family time and down time, too. Sundays are pretty busy. We tend to stack a lot of ministry on Sunday and have set the kids' expectations that Sunday is the day we all serve others at church. It's not just mom and dad who serve and pastor—they are making sacrifices, too. We set boundaries around Sabbath time—Friday night is family dinner and movie night. And Saturday we don't do any work. No homework, no church ministry, no chores. It's just rest, delight in God, and have fun as a family time. It took me several years to cultivate the discipline of rest, but now I really couldn't live without it. This down day is essential to juggling it all.

SHARE THIS: [Twitter](#) [Facebook](#) [Email](#) [LinkedIn](#) [More](#)

3398 (1)

**21**  
Monday  
SEP 2015

## Be Confident in the Lord

POSTED BY KTSHBKA IN Uncategorized

= 1 COMMENT

It's been awhile since I've actively blogged (because I've been living life and working through some areas needing healing and development). So if you're just joining us, here's a little bit about me for context—I met my husband in law school (same year), got married in law school, and we moved to D.C. to have powerful legal careers. Ministry was just about the furthest thing from our minds. But God's call was clear and unavoidable (a longer story), and 4½ years after moving here we planned a church ([mcovenorthdcsquads.org](http://mcovenorthdcsquads.org)). At the time, both of us worked as attorneys for the government and we had 2 young kids. A year later, God told Niki to leave the practice of law (there were 15 people in our church). That was hard and courageous, but he did it! And now, 8 years later, we have 5 kids, a church, and I'm still working in the government.

It hasn't been easy, but it has been very rewarding. When it gets tough (and it does often), we continue to stick to what God has said. We've had to make a lot of life adjustments as our circumstances have changed in order to keep living out what He said. But one of the principles I live by is *Be confident of what God has said and don't waiver about it*.

SHARE THIS: [Twitter](#) [Facebook](#) [Email](#) [LinkedIn](#) [More](#)

3398 (1)

Search... [Go](#)

### FOLLOW BLOG

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 1,110 other followers

Follow

### RECENT POSTS

- Leadership Quotes from Madam Secretary
- My Thoughts on This Unconventional Pastor
- Give Others Freedom to Minister
- How I Seek Out a Mentor
- Being a Lawyer-Pastor

### ARCHIVES

- October 2015
- September 2015
- June 2015
- February 2015
- October 2014
- September 2014
- April 2014
- March 2014
- February 2014
- January 2014
- December 2013
- November 2013
- October 2013
- September 2013
- August 2013
- June 2013
- May 2013
- April 2013
- March 2013
- February 2013
- January 2013
- December 2012
- November 2012
- October 2012
- September 2012
- August 2012
- July 2012
- June 2012
- May 2012
- April 2012
- March 2012
- January 2012
- December 2011
- November 2011
- October 2011
- September 2011
- August 2011
- July 2011
- April 2011
- March 2011
- February 2011
- January 2011
- December 2010
- November 2010
- October 2010
- September 2010
- August 2010
- July 2010
- June 2010
- May 2010
- April 2010
- March 2010
- February 2010
- January 2010
- December 2009
- November 2009
- October 2009
- September 2009
- August 2009
- July 2009
- June 2009
- May 2009
- March 2009
- February 2009
- January 2009
- December 2008
- November 2008
- October 2008
- September 2008
- August 2008
- July 2008
- June 2008
- May 2008
- April 2008
- March 2008
- February 2008
- January 2008
- December 2007
- November 2007
- October 2007
- September 2007
- August 2007
- July 2007
- June 2007
- May 2007
- April 2007
- March 2007
- February 2007
- January 2007

### CATEGORIES



# Kelly Tshibaka ~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional

Search...

Go



MONTHLY ARCHIVES: JANUARY 2014

11  
Saturday  
Jan 2014

## I Gave All My Allowance. What's Your Excuse?

POSTED BY KTSHBKA IN KID STORIES, SPIRITUAL TRUTHS

8 COMMENTS

"Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you." Luke 6:38

Buttun gives like Jesus wants all of us, too. She constantly challenges me and Niki. She even makes it look easy!

Recently she heard an appeal for donations for clean water for a tribe in Africa. She emptied out all her savings (\$22) and pledged \$2/month for a year to help with the effort. Then she initiated her on telethon campaign where she called relatives and implored them to give, too. (It worked!)

For her, giving is a no brainer.

This face says it all:



SHARE THIS:



... 338B (3)

Tags

Parenting, pastoring

08  
Wednesday  
Jan 2014

## Should Women Change Their Names When They Get Married?

POSTED BY KTSHBKA IN DEEP THOUGHTS, MARRIAGE, WOMEN'S TOPICS

1 COMMENT

I've been branded a liberal feminist, a neanderthal conservative, and everything in between. But from my perspective, I just aim to line up everything I do or think with the Word of God. Sometimes that makes me "liberal" by today's standards. Sometimes it makes me "pro-women's rights." And other times it makes me, well, old school. Call it what you will--

Any case, here's my liberally feminist neanderthally conservative Christian view of whether women should change their last names when they get married.

First, let's acknowledge that changing your last name is hard. Really hard. It's wise to recognize that there will be a grieving process involved if you change your name. Whenever we lose something, it triggers grief responses in us—even if we're gaining something better in the process (e.g., grieving after the birth of your first child because you've "lost" the freedom that comes with not having children). Recognizing that grief reaction and allowing yourself to work through it is really healthy.

There are a lot of practical considerations involved in changing your name, but I think they are far outweighed by the principled decisions. In our culture, women's last names denote which family/man they're associated with. For example, as a Lee, you are associated with/cared for by a Lee man (in this case, usually the woman's father). But when you become a Smith, you are associated with/cared for by a Smith man (your spouse). It's a hard thing to leave one family and join another—to leave your childhood family and start a new family with your spouse. And that's ok. It might help to realize you already made this choice when you chose to get married. Changing your name simply reiterates the choice you already made.

And I think that's biblical (not the name change so much, but the declaration of your allegiance). Like Ruth, be sold out in your marriage. Pick your husband over everyone else—dad, mom, brother, sister, even your kids. Your relationship with him is the only covenant relationship you have in this world. So changing your name to show your enmeshment with him is a huge statement of principle, and it's wise. I say share names, bank accounts, vacations, a bed, etc.—as much as you can, really. The more you're unified in the practical things, the more you'll be unified in heart and spirit.

SHARE THIS:



... 338B (3)

Tags

Pioneering, Professional

06  
Monday  
Jan 2014

## The Kind of Encouragement that Makes My Heart Soar

POSTED BY KTSHBKA IN NOTES FOR PASTOR'S WIFE

1 COMMENT

From someone in our church:

*I wanted to share something that might encourage you both. I was reading Hebrews 13 this morning and when I came across Verse 7, I thought of you both. It says to remember your leaders since they taught the Word of God to you, to consider the outcome of their way of life, and to imitate their faith. I'm so proud to be able to look at the outcome of your way of life and to be able to imitate your faith and ways of doing things. I really think that verse is written about leaders like you both.*

Love that. Thank you, Lord, for encouraging us through the people we love and serve.

SHARE THIS:



... 338B (3)

Tags

Pastoring

04  
Saturday  
Jan 2014

## How People Can Lose Their Faith

POSTED BY KTSHBKA IN UNCATEGORIZED

1 COMMENT

*"People shipwreck their faith when they refuse to change their view of who God is or how He operates."*

SHARE THIS:



... 338B (3)

02  
Thursday  
Jan 2014

## Thoughts on Praying to Mary

POSTED BY KTSHBKA IN UNCATEGORIZED

LEAVE A COMMENT

In Luke 11, Jesus addresses the issue of praying to/evering Mary. "Blessed is the woman who bore you!" a person from the crowd cries out. This statement comes in a chapter in which Jesus teaches us how to pray. And it illustrates how people's inclination to pray to Mary has existed from the beginning.

But Jesus responds without skipping a beat. Mary isn't the blessed one, He says. It's the people who hear the word of God and observe it. Those people are called "disciples." (Jesus' declaration at the end of his time on earth was to go make disciples...teaching them to observe all that He commanded us). So Mary isn't the blessed one; it's all the disciples made through time.

Jesus answers the question for us: Don't pray to Mary. Instead, hear the word and observe it.

SHARE THIS:



... 338B (3)

Search...

Go

\* FOLLOW BLOG

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 1,116 other followers

What you should add this

Follow

\* RECENT POSTS

- Leadership Quotes from Madison Secretary
- My Thoughts on This Unconventional Pastor
- Give Others Freedom to Minister
- How I Seek Out a Mentor
- Being a Lawyer-Pastor

\* ARCHIVES

- October 2015
- September 2015
- June 2015
- February 2015
- October 2014
- September 2014
- April 2014
- March 2014
- February 2014
- January 2014
- December 2013
- November 2013
- October 2013
- September 2013
- August 2013
- June 2013
- May 2013
- April 2013
- March 2013
- February 2013
- January 2013
- December 2012
- November 2012
- October 2012
- September 2012
- August 2012
- July 2012
- June 2012
- May 2012
- April 2012
- March 2012
- January 2012
- December 2011
- November 2011
- October 2011
- September 2011
- August 2011
- July 2011
- April 2011
- March 2011
- February 2011
- January 2011
- December 2010
- November 2010
- October 2010
- September 2010
- August 2010
- July 2010
- June 2010
- May 2010
- April 2010
- March 2010
- February 2010
- January 2010
- December 2009
- November 2009
- October 2009
- September 2009
- August 2009
- July 2009
- June 2009
- May 2009
- March 2009
- February 2009
- January 2009
- December 2008
- November 2008
- October 2008
- September 2008
- August 2008
- July 2008
- June 2008
- May 2008
- April 2008
- March 2008
- February 2008
- January 2008
- December 2007
- November 2007
- October 2007
- September 2007
- August 2007
- July 2007
- June 2007
- May 2007
- April 2007
- March 2007
- February 2007
- January 2007

\* CATEGORIES

Select Category



05  
Thursday  
Nov 2015

## Style and Strategy

Posted by KTSHIBAKA in Uncategorized

1 Comment

"If we confuse style with strategy, we will simply look good doing nothing "

Dr. Daniel A. Brown



As for me, I prefer to combine style and strategy, so I can do awesome and look awesome!

Share this:



< 338 / 9

[← Previous post](#)

1

### THOUGHT ON "STYLE AND STRATEGY"



L. said:

November 5, 2015 at 1:14 pm

Haha, YES! You're so amazingly productive and you look FABULOUS doing all You go girl!

[REPLY](#)

LEAVE A REPLY

Enter your comment here...

Search...

Go

#### FOLLOW BLOG

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 1,120 other followers.

Follow

#### RECENT POSTS

- [Style and Strategy](#)
- [Sent to Government: Kelly Tshibaka](#)
- [Leadership Quotes from Madison Secretary](#)
- [My Thoughts on This Unconventional Pastor](#)
- [Give Others Freedom to Minister](#)

#### ARCHIVES

- [November 2015](#)
- [October 2015](#)
- [September 2015](#)
- [June 2015](#)
- [February 2015](#)
- [October 2014](#)
- [September 2014](#)
- [April 2014](#)
- [March 2014](#)
- [February 2014](#)
- [January 2014](#)
- [December 2013](#)
- [November 2013](#)
- [October 2013](#)
- [September 2013](#)
- [August 2013](#)
- [June 2013](#)
- [May 2013](#)
- [April 2013](#)
- [March 2013](#)
- [February 2013](#)
- [January 2013](#)
- [December 2012](#)
- [November 2012](#)
- [October 2012](#)
- [September 2012](#)
- [August 2012](#)
- [July 2012](#)
- [June 2012](#)
- [May 2012](#)
- [April 2012](#)
- [March 2012](#)
- [January 2012](#)
- [December 2011](#)
- [November 2011](#)
- [October 2011](#)
- [September 2011](#)
- [August 2011](#)
- [July 2011](#)
- [April 2011](#)
- [March 2011](#)
- [February 2011](#)
- [January 2011](#)
- [December 2010](#)
- [November 2010](#)
- [October 2010](#)
- [September 2010](#)
- [August 2010](#)
- [July 2010](#)
- [June 2010](#)
- [May 2010](#)
- [April 2010](#)
- [March 2010](#)
- [February 2010](#)
- [January 2010](#)
- [December 2009](#)
- [November 2009](#)
- [October 2009](#)
- [September 2009](#)
- [August 2009](#)
- [July 2009](#)
- [June 2009](#)
- [May 2009](#)
- [March 2009](#)
- [February 2009](#)
- [January 2009](#)
- [December 2008](#)
- [November 2008](#)
- [October 2008](#)
- [September 2008](#)
- [August 2008](#)
- [July 2008](#)
- [June 2008](#)
- [May 2008](#)
- [April 2008](#)
- [March 2008](#)
- [February 2008](#)
- [January 2008](#)
- [December 2007](#)
- [November 2007](#)
- [October 2007](#)
- [September 2007](#)
- [August 2007](#)
- [July 2007](#)
- [June 2007](#)
- [May 2007](#)
- [April 2007](#)
- [March 2007](#)
- [February 2007](#)
- [January 2007](#)

#### CATEGORIES

Select Category

# Kelly Tshibaka ~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional

Search...

Go



02  
Monday  
Nov 2015

## Sent to Government: Kelly Tshibaka

POSTED BY KTSHIBAKA IN Uncategorized

LEAVE A COMMENT

An [article](#) about me published by our Denomination

**"KELLY TSHIBAKA IS A FOURSQUARE PASTOR, BUT HER CAREER IN WASHINGTON, D.C., IS HOW GOD IS USING HER TO DISCIPLE A NATION."**

As Kelly Tshibaka has followed the Lord's leading, she has ended up ministering to people in the most incredible places—including government agencies and the CIA.



"God keeps wanting me to serve in government," says Kelly, who started her career at the U.S. Department of Justice in 2002 and later worked as Counsel and Chief Investigator for the Office of Inspector General. "He keeps giving me crazy opportunities in my career. He has told me, 'I've made you a Deborah.' I've made you a mother to a nation." It surprises me that, in His plan, I'm more valuable to His work here than at church. People tell me

things they can't tell their pastor about."

Despite her impressive job titles the past 13 years, the one she cherishes is co-pastor of Mount Vernon Foursquare Fellowship. She and her husband, Niki, planted the church in 2006 after mentoring from Daniel A. Brown, then supervisor of what was called the Capital District. Daniel had heard of their help with a Foursquare church plant in Cambridge, Mass., while both were attending Harvard Law School. He wanted to know if they would like to plant in the District of Columbia area.

"We were lawyers, not pastors," Kelly recalls. "But he offered to take us out to dinner, and who can pass up a free dinner? Over the next four years, and many free dinners, Pastor Daniel intentionally disciplined us to plant a church."

Niki does most of the preaching, and handles such duties as overseeing the budget, providing spiritual counseling and coaching leaders through the licensing process. Together, he and Kelly have developed a variety of leaders. Among other things, they have been key in the Foursquare credentialing of 11 new pastors, sponsored seven new church plants and helped an architect become a fulltime missionary serving street kids in Haiti.

**"I led two six-week studies at the CIA called 'How to Study the Bible' that were largely attended by non-believers."**

Kelly has helped lead Mount Vernon's spiritual formation and developed the church's operational aspects. Her church duties include preaching, leading discipleship groups and adult Bible studies, and directing the children's and women's programs.

Still, her leading spiritual duty comes in the marketplace. Though emphasizing she avoids being onecous, she is still vocal about her Christian identity while at work. That includes leading discipleship groups at work, reading the Bible and discipling people. One of her disciples later resigned as a foreign service officer with the U.S. State Department to become a pastor on staff at a megachurch.

"I've led Bible studies and started Christian fellowship networks at work," Kelly says. "I led two six-week studies at the CIA called 'How to Study the Bible' that were largely attended by non-believers."

Indeed, Kelly feels her leading assignment is to pastor people at the agency where she works. An example is what happened the time she walked through the CIA on a break and made eye contact with a man. Feeling the Holy Spirit's leading to talk with him, when she walked outside he followed. The man told her he was looking for a chaplain and felt he was supposed to talk to her.

Kelly replied that she had experience talking to God. She suggested they sit down for 10 minutes and make notes of what they sensed the Lord was saying. At the end of that time, their notes matched. That gave him vital direction regarding a work dilemma, which would also affect his marriage.

Kelly sees "divine appointment" written all over such contacts. "One friend who was part of my 'How to Study the Bible' course is of another faith tradition and had always thought things about it were lacking," Kelly says. "I was the first Christian willing to answer his questions about Jesus."

Such stories show how God has His people everywhere, especially in the marketplace. Kelly thinks more believers should make their presence known.

"One other thing that surprises me is how few Christians at work are open about it," she says. "That makes me sad. I've been attacked pretty brutally, so I understand why they remain silent. But I speak up anyway."

SHARE THIS [Twitter](#) [Facebook](#) [Email](#) [LinkedIn](#) [More](#)

1,338 (3)

← Previous post

Next post →

LEAVE A REPLY

Enter your comment here...

Search...

Go

FOLLOW BLOG

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 1,126 other followers.

What's this about RSS feeds

Follow

RECENT POSTS

- Style and Strategy
- Sent to Government: Kelly Tshibaka
- Leadership Quotes from Madison Secretary
- My Thoughts on This Unconventional Pastor
- Give Others Freedom to Minister

ARCHIVES

- November 2015
- October 2015
- September 2015
- June 2015
- February 2015
- October 2014
- September 2014
- April 2014
- March 2014
- February 2014
- January 2014
- December 2013
- November 2013
- October 2013
- September 2013
- August 2013
- June 2013
- May 2013
- April 2013
- March 2013
- February 2013
- January 2013
- December 2012
- November 2012
- October 2012
- September 2012
- August 2012
- July 2012
- June 2012
- May 2012
- April 2012
- March 2012
- January 2012
- December 2011
- November 2011
- October 2011
- September 2011
- August 2011
- July 2011
- April 2011
- March 2011
- February 2011
- January 2011
- December 2010
- November 2010
- October 2010
- September 2010
- August 2010
- July 2010
- June 2010
- May 2010
- April 2010
- March 2010
- February 2010
- January 2010
- December 2009
- November 2009
- October 2009
- September 2009
- August 2009
- July 2009
- June 2009
- May 2009
- March 2009
- February 2009
- January 2009
- December 2008
- November 2008
- October 2008
- September 2008
- August 2008
- July 2008
- June 2008
- May 2008
- April 2008
- March 2008
- February 2008
- January 2008
- December 2007
- November 2007
- October 2007
- September 2007
- August 2007
- July 2007
- June 2007
- May 2007
- April 2007
- March 2007
- February 2007
- January 2007

CATEGORIES

Select Category ▼

```

<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?><rss version="2.0"
  xmlns:content="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/content/"
  xmlns:dc="http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/"
  xmlns:atom="http://www.w3.org/2005/Atom"
  xmlns:sy="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/syndication/"
  xmlns:georss="http://www.georss.org/georss" xmlns:geo="http://www.w3.org/2003/01/geo/wgs84_pos#" xmlns:media="http://search.yahoo.com/mrss/"
  >
<channel>
  <title>Comments on: Style and Strategy</title>
  <atom:link href="http://kellytshibaka.com/2015/11/05/style-and-strategy/feed/" rel="self" type="application/rss+xml" />
  <link>http://kellytshibaka.com/2015/11/05/style-and-strategy/</link>
  <description>Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional</description>
  <lastBuildDate>Thu, 05 Nov 2015 23:36:17 +0000</lastBuildDate>
  <sy:updatePeriod>hourly</sy:updatePeriod>
  <sy:updateFrequency>1</sy:updateFrequency>
  <generator>http://wordpress.com/</generator>
  <item>
    <title>By: L</title>
    <link>http://kellytshibaka.com/2015/11/05/style-and-strategy/comment-page-1/#comment-29717</link>
    <dc:creator><![CDATA[L]]></dc:creator>
    <pubDate>Thu, 05 Nov 2015 23:36:17 +0000</pubDate>
    <guid isPermaLink="false">http://kellytshibaka.com/?p=1584#comment-29717</guid>
    <description><![CDATA[Haha, YES! You're so amazingly productive and you look FABULOUS doing it! You go girl!]]></description>
    <content:encoded><![CDATA[<p>Haha, YES! You're so amazingly productive and you look FABULOUS doing it! You go girl!</p>
]]></content:encoded>
  </item>
</channel>
</rss>

```



# Kelly Tshibaka ~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional

Search...



MONTHLY ARCHIVES: NOVEMBER 2015

05  
Thursday  
Nov 2015

## Style and Strategy

POSTED BY KTSHIBAKA IN Uncategorized

1 COMMENT

*"If we confuse style with strategy, we will simply look good doing nothing"*

Dr. Daniel A. Brown



As for me, I prefer to combine style and strategy, so I can do awesome and look awesome!

SHARE THIS: [Twitter](#) [Facebook](#) [Email](#) [LinkedIn](#) [More](#)

Like this:

02  
Monday  
Nov 2015

## Sent to Government: Kelly Tshibaka

POSTED BY KTSHIBAKA IN Uncategorized

LEAVE A COMMENT

An [article](#) about me published by our Denomination

*"KELLY TSHIBAKA IS A FOURSQUARE PASTOR, BUT HER CAREER IN WASHINGTON, D.C., IS HOW GOD IS USING HER TO DISCIPLE A NATION."*

As Kelly Tshibaka has followed the Lord's leading, she has ended up ministering to people in the most incredible places—including government agencies and the CIA.



"God keeps wanting me to serve in government," says Kelly, who started her career at the U.S. Department of Justice in 2002 and later worked as Counsel and Chief Investigator for the Office of Inspector General. "He keeps giving me crazy opportunities in my career. He has told me, 'I've made you a Deborah. I've made you a mother to a nation.' It surprises me that, in His plan, I'm more valuable to His work here than at church. People tell me

things they can't tell their pastor about."

Despite her impressive job titles the past 13 years, the one she cherishes is co-pastor of Mount Vernon Foursquare Fellowship. She and her husband, Niki, planted the church in 2006 after mentoring from Daniel A. Brown, then supervisor of what was called the Capital District. Daniel had heard of their help with a Foursquare church plant in Cambridge, Mass., while both were attending Harvard Law School. He wanted to know if they would like to plant in the District of Columbia area.

"We were lawyers, not pastors," Kelly recalls. "But he offered to take us out to dinner, and who can pass up a free dinner? Over the next four years, and many free dinners, Pastor Daniel intentionally disciplined us to plant a church."

Niki does most of the preaching, and handles such duties as overseeing the budget, providing spiritual counseling and coaching leaders through the licensing process. Together, he and Kelly have developed a variety of leaders. Among other things, they have been key in the Foursquare credentialing of 11 new pastors, sponsored seven new church plants and helped an architect become a fulltime missionary serving street kids in Haiti.

*"I led two six-week studies at the CIA called 'How to Study the Bible' that were largely attended by non-believers."*

Kelly has helped lead Mount Vernon's spiritual formation and developed the church's operational aspects. Her church duties include preaching, leading discipleship groups and adult Bible studies, and directing the children's and women's programs.

Still, her leading spiritual duty comes in the marketplace. Though emphasizing she avoids being connoisseur, she is still vocal about her Christian identity while at work. That includes leading discipleship groups at work, reading the Bible and discipling people. One of her disciples later resigned as a foreign service officer with the U.S. State Department to become a pastor on staff at a megachurch.

"I've led Bible studies and started Christian fellowship networks at work," Kelly says. "I led two six-week studies at the CIA called 'How to Study the Bible' that were largely attended by non-believers."

Indeed, Kelly feels her leading assignment is to pastor people at the agency where she works. An example is what happened the time she walked through the CIA on a break and made eye contact with a man. Feeling the Holy Spirit's leading to talk with him, when she walked outside he followed. The man told her he was looking for a chaplain and felt he was supposed to talk to her.

Kelly replied that she had experience talking to God. She suggested they sit down for 10 minutes and make notes of what they sensed the Lord was saying. At the end of that time, their notes matched. That gave him vital direction regarding a work dilemma, which would also affect his marriage.

Kelly sees "divine appointment" written all over such contacts. "One friend who was part of my 'How to Study the Bible' course is of another faith tradition and had always thought things about it were lacking," Kelly says. "I was the first Christian willing to answer his questions about Jesus."

Such stories show how God has His people everywhere, especially in the marketplace. Kelly thinks more believers should make their presence known.

"One other thing that surprises me is how few Christians at work are open about it," she says. "That makes me sad. I've been attacked pretty brutally, so I understand why they remain silent. But I speak up anyway."

SHARE THIS: [Twitter](#) [Facebook](#) [Email](#) [LinkedIn](#) [More](#)

Like this:

FOLLOW BLOG  
Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.  
Join 1,120 other followers.

Follow

RECENT POSTS

- Style and Strategy
- Sent to Government: Kelly Tshibaka
- Leadership Quotes from Mission Secretary
- My Thoughts on This Unconventional Pastor
- Give Others Freedom to Minister

ARCHIVES

- November 2015
- October 2015
- September 2015
- June 2015
- February 2015
- October 2014
- September 2014
- April 2014
- March 2014
- February 2014
- January 2014
- December 2013
- November 2013
- October 2013
- September 2013
- August 2013
- June 2013
- May 2013
- April 2013
- March 2013
- February 2013
- January 2013
- December 2012
- November 2012
- October 2012
- September 2012
- August 2012
- July 2012
- June 2012
- May 2012
- April 2012
- March 2012
- January 2012
- December 2011
- November 2011
- October 2011
- September 2011
- August 2011
- July 2011
- April 2011
- March 2011
- February 2011
- January 2011
- December 2010
- November 2010
- October 2010
- September 2010
- August 2010
- July 2010
- June 2010
- May 2010
- April 2010
- March 2010
- February 2010
- January 2010
- December 2009
- November 2009
- October 2009
- September 2009
- August 2009
- July 2009
- June 2009
- May 2009
- March 2009
- February 2009
- January 2009
- December 2008
- November 2008
- October 2008
- September 2008
- August 2008
- July 2008
- June 2008
- May 2008
- April 2008
- March 2008
- February 2008
- January 2008
- December 2007
- November 2007
- October 2007
- September 2007
- August 2007
- July 2007
- June 2007
- May 2007
- April 2007
- March 2007
- February 2007
- January 2007

CATEGORIES  
Select Category



05  
Thursday  
Nov 2015

## Style and Strategy

Posted by KTSHIBAKA in Uncategorized

1 Comment

"If we confuse style with strategy, we will simply look good doing nothing "

Dr. Daniel A. Brown



As for me, I prefer to combine style and strategy, so I can do awesome and look awesome!

Share this:



1,338 Views

← Previous post

1

### THOUGHT ON "STYLE AND STRATEGY"



L. said:

November 5, 2015 at 1:13 pm

Haha, YES! You're so amazingly productive and you look FABULOUS doing all You go girl!

REPLY

LEAVE A REPLY

Enter your comment here...

Search...

Go

#### FOLLOW BLOG

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 1,120 other followers

Enter your email address

Follow

#### RECENT POSTS

- Style and Strategy
- Sent to Government: Kelly Tshibaka
- Leadership Quotes from Madison Secretary
- My Thoughts on This Unconventional Pastor
- Give Others Freedom to Minister

#### ARCHIVES

- November 2015
- October 2015
- September 2015
- June 2015
- February 2015
- October 2014
- September 2014
- April 2014
- March 2014
- February 2014
- January 2014
- December 2013
- November 2013
- October 2013
- September 2013
- August 2013
- June 2013
- May 2013
- April 2013
- March 2013
- February 2013
- January 2013
- December 2012
- November 2012
- October 2012
- September 2012
- August 2012
- July 2012
- June 2012
- May 2012
- April 2012
- March 2012
- January 2012
- December 2011
- November 2011
- October 2011
- September 2011
- August 2011
- July 2011
- April 2011
- March 2011
- February 2011
- January 2011
- December 2010
- November 2010
- October 2010
- September 2010
- August 2010
- July 2010
- June 2010
- May 2010
- April 2010
- March 2010
- February 2010
- January 2010
- December 2009
- November 2009
- October 2009
- September 2009
- August 2009
- July 2009
- June 2009
- May 2009
- March 2009
- February 2009
- January 2009
- December 2008
- November 2008
- October 2008
- September 2008
- August 2008
- July 2008
- June 2008
- May 2008
- April 2008
- March 2008
- February 2008
- January 2008
- December 2007
- November 2007
- October 2007
- September 2007
- August 2007
- July 2007
- June 2007
- May 2007
- April 2007
- March 2007
- February 2007
- January 2007

#### CATEGORIES

Select Category

# Kelly Tshibaka ~ Perspectives of a Parent, Pioneer, Pastor, and Professional

Search...

Go



12  
Thursday  
Nov 2015

## Thoughts on How to Disciple

Posted by ktschibaka in Uncategorized

Leave a comment

Lately church members and former church members have been giving me some feedback on how I disciple (which I think of as "leadership development for Christians"). It's been helpful for me to hear their insights because I don't always recognize how I'm doing it or if it's actually working. So I'm passing along some of their comments in the event that it helps you in your discipling efforts.

"We couldn't be more different, but nobody else has helped me to be free being the 'real' me than you."

"Thank you for creating an environment that allows members of our church to step out into what God has called them to. Discipleship oozes out of you."

"Thank you for being transparent and honest with your struggles and victories. You have also been honest about your struggles with your identity in Christ, your crises of faith, etc. that let people know that this journey is a struggle, but one so worth living, because God's healing power is real!"

"The journey from mid-September until now has been stretching, equipping, struggle filled, but the most life giving and fulfilling times of my life. I have more of a sense of who I am in Christ, and am so excited to have started to walk out in it, with boldness."

REPLYING (0)

SHARE THIS:



334 / 1

Previous post

LEAVE A REPLY

Enter your comment here...

Search...

Go

### FOLLOW BLOG

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 1,125 other followers.

Enter your email address

Follow

### RECENT POSTS

- Thoughts on How to Disciple
- Style and Strategy
- Sent to Government: Kelly Tshibaka
- Leadership Quotes from Midian Secretary
- My Thoughts on This Unconventional Pastor

### ARCHIVES

- November 2015
- October 2015
- September 2015
- June 2015
- February 2015
- October 2014
- September 2014
- April 2014
- March 2014
- February 2014
- January 2014
- December 2013
- November 2013
- October 2013
- September 2013
- August 2013
- June 2013
- May 2013
- April 2013
- March 2013
- February 2013
- January 2013
- December 2012
- November 2012
- October 2012
- September 2012
- August 2012
- July 2012
- June 2012
- May 2012
- April 2012
- March 2012
- January 2012
- December 2011
- November 2011
- October 2011
- September 2011
- August 2011
- July 2011
- April 2011
- March 2011
- February 2011
- January 2011
- December 2010
- November 2010
- October 2010
- September 2010
- August 2010
- July 2010
- June 2010
- May 2010
- April 2010
- March 2010
- February 2010
- January 2010
- December 2009
- November 2009
- October 2009
- September 2009
- August 2009
- July 2008
- June 2009
- May 2009
- March 2009
- February 2009
- January 2009
- December 2008
- November 2008
- October 2008
- September 2008
- August 2008
- July 2008
- June 2008
- May 2008
- April 2008
- March 2008
- February 2008
- January 2008
- December 2007
- November 2007
- October 2007
- September 2007
- August 2007
- July 2007
- June 2007
- May 2007
- April 2007
- March 2007
- February 2007
- January 2007

### CATEGORIES

Select Category

[DONATE](#)


<http://kellytshibaka.com/2015/10/06/how-i-see-out-a-mentor/>

Latest

Show All

**Hrm.**

The Wayback Machine has not archived that URL.

**This page is available on the web!**

Help make the Wayback Machine more complete!

Save this url in the Wayback Machine

Click here to search for all archived pages under  
<http://kellytshibaka.com/2015/10/06/how-i-see-out-a-mentor/>.



The Wayback Machine is an initiative of the Internet Archive, a 501(c)(3) non-profit building a digital library of Internet sites and other cultural artifacts in digital form. Other projects include Open Library & archive-it.org.

Your use of the Wayback Machine is subject to the Internet Archive's Terms of Use



DONATE

INTERNET ARCHIVE  
**WayBack Machine**

<http://kellytshibaka.com/2015/09/28/how-i-do-marketpla>

Latest

Show All

**Hrm.**

The Wayback Machine has not archived that URL.

**This page is available on the web!**

Help make the Wayback Machine more complete!

Save this url in the Wayback Machine

Click here to search for all archived pages under

<http://kellytshibaka.com/2015/09/28/how-i-do-marketplace-ministry-as-a-d-c-lawyer/>.



The Wayback Machine is an initiative of the Internet Archive, a 501(c)(3) non-profit building a digital library of Internet sites and other cultural artifacts in digital form. Other projects include [Open Library](#) & [archive-it.org](#)

Your use of the Wayback Machine is subject to the Internet Archive's [Terms of Use](#).

DONATE



<http://kellytshibaka.com/2015/10/02/being-a-lawyer-past>

Latest

Show All

Hrm.

The Wayback Machine has not archived that URL.

This page is available on the web!

Help make the Wayback Machine more complete!

Save this url in the Wayback Machine

Click here to search for all archived pages under  
<http://kellytshibaka.com/2015/10/02/being-a-lawyer-pastor/>.



The Wayback Machine is an initiative of the Internet Archive, a 501(c)(3) non-profit building a digital library of Internet sites and other cultural artifacts in digital form. Other projects include Open Library & archive-it.org.

Your use of the Wayback Machine is subject to the Internet Archive's Terms of Use

DONATE

INTERNET ARCHIVE  
WayBack Machine

<http://kellytshibaka.com/2015/10/06/how-i-see-out-a-mentor/>

Latest

Show All

Hrm.

The Wayback Machine has not archived that URL.

This page is available on the web!

Help make the Wayback Machine more complete!

Save this url in the Wayback Machine

Click here to search for all archived pages under  
<http://kellytshibaka.com/2015/10/06/how-i-see-out-a-mentor/>.



The Wayback Machine is an initiative of the Internet Archive, a 501(c)(3) non-profit building a digital library of Internet sites and other cultural artifacts in digital form. Other projects include Open Library & archive-it.org.

Your use of the Wayback Machine is subject to the Internet Archive's Terms of Use

DONATE



<http://kellytshibaka.com/2015/10/02/being-a-lawyer-past>

Latest

Show All

Hrm.

The Wayback Machine has not archived that URL.

This page is available on the web!

Help make the Wayback Machine more complete!

Save this url in the Wayback Machine

Click here to search for all archived pages under  
<http://kellytshibaka.com/2015/10/02/being-a-lawyer-pastor/>.



The Wayback Machine is an initiative of the Internet Archive, a 501(c)(3) non-profit building a digital library of Internet sites and other cultural artifacts in digital form. Other projects include Open Library & archive-it.org.

Your use of the Wayback Machine is subject to the Internet Archive's Terms of Use

DONATE



[http://kellytshibaka.com/2015/11/05/style-and-strategy/?](http://kellytshibaka.com/2015/11/05/style-and-strategy/)

Latest

Show All

Hrm.

The Wayback Machine has not archived that URL.

This page is available on the web!

Help make the Wayback Machine more complete!

Save this url in the Wayback Machine

Click here to search for all archived pages under  
[http://kellytshibaka.com/2015/11/05/style-and-strategy/.](http://kellytshibaka.com/2015/11/05/style-and-strategy/)



The Wayback Machine is an initiative of the Internet Archive, a 501(c)(3) non-profit building a digital library of Internet sites and other cultural artifacts in digital form. Other projects include Open Library & archive-it.org.

Your use of the Wayback Machine is subject to the Internet Archive's Terms of Use



DONATE



<http://kellytshibaka.com/2015/09/30/waiting-for-dreams->

Latest

Show All

Hrm.

The Wayback Machine has not archived that URL.

This page is available on the web!

Help make the Wayback Machine more complete!

Save this url in the Wayback Machine

Click here to search for all archived pages under  
<http://kellytshibaka.com/2015/09/30/waiting-for-dreams-to-come-true/>.



The Wayback Machine is an initiative of the Internet Archive, a 501(c)(3) non-profit building a digital library of Internet sites and other cultural artifacts in digital form. Other projects include Open Library & archive-it.org.

Your use of the Wayback Machine is subject to the Internet Archive's Terms of Use

DONATE



<http://kellytshibaka.com/2015/11/05/style-and-strategy/>

Latest

Show All

Hrm.

The Wayback Machine has not archived that URL.

This page is available on the web!

Help make the Wayback Machine more complete!

Save this url in the Wayback Machine

Click here to search for all archived pages under  
<http://kellytshibaka.com/2015/11/05/style-and-strategy/>.



The Wayback Machine is an initiative of the Internet Archive, a 501(c)(3) non-profit building a digital library of Internet sites and other cultural artifacts in digital form. Other projects include Open Library & archive-it.org.

Your use of the Wayback Machine is subject to the Internet Archive's Terms of Use

DONATE



<http://kellytshibaka.com/2015/10/08/give-others-freedom>

Latest

Show All

Hrm.

The Wayback Machine has not archived that URL.

This page is available on the web!

Help make the Wayback Machine more complete!

Save this url in the Wayback Machine

Click here to search for all archived pages under  
<http://kellytshibaka.com/2015/10/08/give-others-freedom-to-minister/>.



The Wayback Machine is an initiative of the Internet Archive, a 501(c)(3) non-profit building a digital library of Internet sites and other cultural artifacts in digital form. Other projects include Open Library & archive-it.org.

Your use of the Wayback Machine is subject to the Internet Archive's Terms of Use

DONATE



<http://kellytshibaka.com/2015/11/12/thoughts-on-how-to>

Latest

Show All

Hrm.

The Wayback Machine has not archived that URL.

This page is available on the web!

Help make the Wayback Machine more complete!

Save this url in the Wayback Machine

Click here to search for all archived pages under  
<http://kellytshibaka.com/2015/11/12/thoughts-on-how-to-disciple/>.



The Wayback Machine is an initiative of the Internet Archive, a 501(c)(3) non-profit building a digital library of Internet sites and other cultural artifacts in digital form. Other projects include Open Library & archive-it.org.

Your use of the Wayback Machine is subject to the Internet Archive's Terms of Use

DONATE

INTERNET ARCHIVE  
**WayBack Machine**

<http://kellytshibaka.com/2015/09/28/how-i-do-marketpla>

Latest

Show All

**Hrm.**

The Wayback Machine has not archived that URL.

**This page is available on the web!**

Help make the Wayback Machine more complete!

Save this url in the Wayback Machine

Click here to search for all archived pages under

<http://kellytshibaka.com/2015/09/28/how-i-do-marketplace-ministry-as-a-d-c-lawyer/>.



The Wayback Machine is an initiative of the Internet Archive, a 501(c)(3) non-profit building a digital library of Internet sites and other cultural artifacts in digital form. Other projects include [Open Library](#) & [archive-it.org](#)

Your use of the Wayback Machine is subject to the Internet Archive's [Terms of Use](#).



DONATE



<http://kellytshibaka.com/2015/10/14/leadership-quotes-f>

Latest

Show All

Hrm.

The Wayback Machine has not archived that URL.

This page is available on the web!

Help make the Wayback Machine more complete!

Save this url in the Wayback Machine

Click here to search for all archived pages under  
<http://kellytshibaka.com/2015/10/14/leadership-quotes-from-secretary-of-state/>.



The Wayback Machine is an initiative of the Internet Archive, a 501(c)(3) non-profit building a digital library of Internet sites and other cultural artifacts in digital form. Other projects include [Open Library](#) & [archive-it.org](#)

Your use of the Wayback Machine is subject to the Internet Archive's [Terms of Use](#).

DONATE



<http://kellytshibaka.com/2015/09/28/how-i-do-marketplace-ministry-as-a-d-c-lawyer/>

Latest

Show All

Hrm.

The Wayback Machine has not archived that URL.

This page is available on the web!

Help make the Wayback Machine more complete!

Save this url in the Wayback Machine

Click here to search for all archived pages under  
<http://kellytshibaka.com/2015/09/28/how-i-do-marketplace-ministry-as-a-d-c-lawyer/>.



The Wayback Machine is an initiative of the Internet Archive, a 501(c)(3) non-profit building a digital library of Internet sites and other cultural artifacts in digital form. Other projects include [Open Library](#) & [archive-it.org](#)

Your use of the Wayback Machine is subject to the Internet Archive's [Terms of Use](#).

DONATE

INTERNET ARCHIVE  
WayBack Machine

<http://kellytshibaka.com/2015/10/08/give-others-freedom>

Latest

Show All

Hrm.

The Wayback Machine has not archived that URL.

This page is available on the web!

Help make the Wayback Machine more complete!

Save this url in the Wayback Machine

Click here to search for all archived pages under

<http://kellytshibaka.com/2015/10/08/give-others-freedom-to-minister/>.



The Wayback Machine is an initiative of the Internet Archive, a 501(c)(3) non-profit building a digital library of Internet sites and other cultural artifacts in digital form. Other projects include Open Library & archive-it.org.

Your use of the Wayback Machine is subject to the Internet Archive's Terms of Use

DONATE



<http://kellytshibaka.com/2015/10/14/leadership-quotes-f>

Latest

Show All

Hrm.

The Wayback Machine has not archived that URL.

This page is available on the web!

Help make the Wayback Machine more complete!

Save this url in the Wayback Machine

Click here to search for all archived pages under

<http://kellytshibaka.com/2015/10/14/leadership-quotes-from-secretary-of-state/>.



The Wayback Machine is an initiative of the Internet Archive, a 501(c)(3) non-profit building a digital library of Internet sites and other cultural artifacts in digital form. Other projects include [Open Library](#) & [archive-it.org](#).

Your use of the Wayback Machine is subject to the Internet Archive's [Terms of Use](#).

DONATE



<http://kellytshibaka.com/2015/11/02/sent-to-government>

Latest

Show All

Hrm.

The Wayback Machine has not archived that URL.

This page is available on the web!

Help make the Wayback Machine more complete!

Save this url in the Wayback Machine

Click here to search for all archived pages under  
<http://kellytshibaka.com/2015/11/02/sent-to-government-kelly-tshibaka/>.



The Wayback Machine is an initiative of the Internet Archive, a 501(c)(3) non-profit building a digital library of Internet sites and other cultural artifacts in digital form. Other projects include [Open Library](#) & [archive-it.org](#)

Your use of the Wayback Machine is subject to the Internet Archive's [Terms of Use](#).



DONATE



<http://kellytshibaka.com/2015/11/12/thoughts-on-how-to>

Latest

Show All

Hrm.

The Wayback Machine has not archived that URL.

This page is available on the web!

Help make the Wayback Machine more complete!

Save this url in the Wayback Machine

Click here to search for all archived pages under  
<http://kellytshibaka.com/2015/11/12/thoughts-on-how-to-disciple/>.



The Wayback Machine is an initiative of the Internet Archive, a 501(c)(3) non-profit building a digital library of Internet sites and other cultural artifacts in digital form. Other projects include Open Library & archive-it.org.

Your use of the Wayback Machine is subject to the Internet Archive's Terms of Use

DONATE



<http://kellytshibaka.com/2015/11/12/thoughts-on-how-to>

Latest

Show All

Hrm.

The Wayback Machine has not archived that URL.

This page is available on the web!

Help make the Wayback Machine more complete!

Save this url in the Wayback Machine

Click here to search for all archived pages under  
<http://kellytshibaka.com/2015/11/12/thoughts-on-how-to-disciple/>.



The Wayback Machine is an initiative of the Internet Archive, a 501(c)(3) non-profit building a digital library of Internet sites and other cultural artifacts in digital form. Other projects include Open Library & archive-it.org.

Your use of the Wayback Machine is subject to the Internet Archive's Terms of Use

DONATE

INTERNET ARCHIVE  
**WayBack Machine**

<http://kellytshibaka.com/2015/10/14/leadership-quotes-f>

Latest

Show All

**Hrm.**

The Wayback Machine has not archived that URL.

**This page is available on the web!**

Help make the Wayback Machine more complete!

Save this url in the Wayback Machine

Click here to search for all archived pages under

<http://kellytshibaka.com/2015/10/14/leadership-quotes-from-secretary-of-state/>.



The Wayback Machine is an initiative of the Internet Archive, a 501(c)(3) non-profit building a digital library of Internet sites and other cultural artifacts in digital form. Other projects include [Open Library](#) & [archive-it.org](#)

Your use of the Wayback Machine is subject to the Internet Archive's [Terms of Use](#).

DONATE



<http://kellytshibaka.com/2015/11/05/style-and-strategy/?>

Latest

Show All

Hrm.

The Wayback Machine has not archived that URL.

This page is available on the web!

Help make the Wayback Machine more complete!

Save this url in the Wayback Machine

Click here to search for all archived pages under  
<http://kellytshibaka.com/2015/11/05/style-and-strategy/>.



The Wayback Machine is an initiative of the Internet Archive, a 501(c)(3) non-profit building a digital library of Internet sites and other cultural artifacts in digital form. Other projects include Open Library & archive-it.org.

Your use of the Wayback Machine is subject to the Internet Archive's Terms of Use

DONATE



<http://kellytshibaka.com/2015/10/02/being-a-lawyer-past>

Latest

Show All

Hrm.

The Wayback Machine has not archived that URL.

This page is available on the web!

Help make the Wayback Machine more complete!

Save this url in the Wayback Machine

Click here to search for all archived pages under  
<http://kellytshibaka.com/2015/10/02/being-a-lawyer-pastor/>.



The Wayback Machine is an initiative of the Internet Archive, a 501(c)(3) non-profit building a digital library of Internet sites and other cultural artifacts in digital form. Other projects include Open Library & archive-it.org.

Your use of the Wayback Machine is subject to the Internet Archive's Terms of Use



DONATE



<http://kellytshibaka.com/2015/10/14/leadership-quotes-f>

Latest

Show All

Hrm.

The Wayback Machine has not archived that URL.

This page is available on the web!

Help make the Wayback Machine more complete!

Save this url in the Wayback Machine

Click here to search for all archived pages under

<http://kellytshibaka.com/2015/10/14/leadership-quotes-from-secretary-of-state/>.



The Wayback Machine is an initiative of the Internet Archive, a 501(c)(3) non-profit building a digital library of Internet sites and other cultural artifacts in digital form. Other projects include [Open Library](#) & [archive-it.org](#).

Your use of the Wayback Machine is subject to the Internet Archive's [Terms of Use](#).

DONATE



<http://kellytshibaka.com/2015/09/30/waiting-for-dreams->

Latest

Show All

Hrm.

The Wayback Machine has not archived that URL.

This page is available on the web!

Help make the Wayback Machine more complete!

Save this url in the Wayback Machine

Click here to search for all archived pages under  
<http://kellytshibaka.com/2015/09/30/waiting-for-dreams-to-come-true/>.



The Wayback Machine is an initiative of the Internet Archive, a 501(c)(3) non-profit building a digital library of Internet sites and other cultural artifacts in digital form. Other projects include Open Library & archive-it.org.

Your use of the Wayback Machine is subject to the Internet Archive's Terms of Use

DONATE



<http://kellytshibaka.com/2015/10/12/my-thoughts-on-this-unconventional-pastor/>

Latest

Show All

Hrm.

The Wayback Machine has not archived that URL.

This page is available on the web!

Help make the Wayback Machine more complete!

Save this url in the Wayback Machine

Click here to search for all archived pages under  
<http://kellytshibaka.com/2015/10/12/my-thoughts-on-this-unconventional-pastor/>.



The Wayback Machine is an initiative of the Internet Archive, a 501(c)(3) non-profit building a digital library of Internet sites and other cultural artifacts in digital form. Other projects include [Open Library](#) & [archive-it.org](#).

Your use of the Wayback Machine is subject to the Internet Archive's [Terms of Use](#).

DONATE



<http://kellytshibaka.com/2015/10/12/my-thoughts-on-this-unconventional-pastor/>

Latest

Show All

Hrm.

The Wayback Machine has not archived that URL.

This page is available on the web!

Help make the Wayback Machine more complete!

Save this url in the Wayback Machine

Click here to search for all archived pages under  
<http://kellytshibaka.com/2015/10/12/my-thoughts-on-this-unconventional-pastor/>.



The Wayback Machine is an initiative of the Internet Archive, a 501(c)(3) non-profit building a digital library of Internet sites and other cultural artifacts in digital form. Other projects include [Open Library](#) & [archive-it.org](#).

Your use of the Wayback Machine is subject to the Internet Archive's [Terms of Use](#).

DONATE



<http://kellytshibaka.com/2015/10/02/being-a-lawyer-past>

Latest

Show All

Hrm.

The Wayback Machine has not archived that URL.

This page is available on the web!

Help make the Wayback Machine more complete!

Save this url in the Wayback Machine

Click here to search for all archived pages under  
<http://kellytshibaka.com/2015/10/02/being-a-lawyer-pastor/>.



The Wayback Machine is an initiative of the Internet Archive, a 501(c)(3) non-profit building a digital library of Internet sites and other cultural artifacts in digital form. Other projects include Open Library & archive-it.org.

Your use of the Wayback Machine is subject to the Internet Archive's Terms of Use



DONATE

INTERNET ARCHIVE  
WayBack Machine

<http://kellytshibaka.com/2015/10/08/give-others-freedom>

Latest

Show All

Hrm.

The Wayback Machine has not archived that URL.

This page is available on the web!

Help make the Wayback Machine more complete!

Save this url in the Wayback Machine

Click here to search for all archived pages under

<http://kellytshibaka.com/2015/10/08/give-others-freedom-to-minister/>.



The Wayback Machine is an initiative of the Internet Archive, a 501(c)(3) non-profit building a digital library of Internet sites and other cultural artifacts in digital form. Other projects include Open Library & archive-it.org.

Your use of the Wayback Machine is subject to the Internet Archive's Terms of Use

DONATE



<http://kellytshibaka.com/2015/09/30/waiting-for-dreams->

Latest

Show All

Hrm.

The Wayback Machine has not archived that URL.

This page is available on the web!

Help make the Wayback Machine more complete!

Save this url in the Wayback Machine

Click here to search for all archived pages under  
<http://kellytshibaka.com/2015/09/30/waiting-for-dreams-to-come-true/>.



The Wayback Machine is an initiative of the Internet Archive, a 501(c)(3) non-profit building a digital library of Internet sites and other cultural artifacts in digital form. Other projects include Open Library & archive-it.org.

Your use of the Wayback Machine is subject to the Internet Archive's Terms of Use

DONATE

INTERNET ARCHIVE  
WayBack Machine

<http://kellytshibaka.com/2015/10/08/give-others-freedom>

Latest

Show All

Hrm.

The Wayback Machine has not archived that URL.

This page is available on the web!

Help make the Wayback Machine more complete!

Save this url in the Wayback Machine

Click here to search for all archived pages under

<http://kellytshibaka.com/2015/10/08/give-others-freedom-to-minister/>.



The Wayback Machine is an initiative of the Internet Archive, a 501(c)(3) non-profit building a digital library of Internet sites and other cultural artifacts in digital form. Other projects include Open Library & archive-it.org.

Your use of the Wayback Machine is subject to the Internet Archive's Terms of Use

DONATE

INTERNET ARCHIVE  
**Wayback Machine**

<http://kellytshibaka.com/page/2/>

Latest

Show All

Hrm.

The Wayback Machine has not archived that URL.

**This page is available on the web!**

Help make the Wayback Machine more complete!

Save this url in the Wayback Machine

Click here to search for all archived pages under  
<http://kellytshibaka.com/page/2/>.



The Wayback Machine is an initiative of the Internet Archive, a 501(c)(3) non-profit building a digital library of Internet sites and other cultural artifacts in digital form. Other projects include Open Library & archive-it.org.

Your use of the Wayback Machine is subject to the Internet Archive's Terms of Use

DONATE



<http://kellytshibaka.com/2015/10/02/being-a-lawyer-past>

Latest

Show All

Hrm.

The Wayback Machine has not archived that URL.

This page is available on the web!

Help make the Wayback Machine more complete!

Save this url in the Wayback Machine

Click here to search for all archived pages under  
<http://kellytshibaka.com/2015/10/02/being-a-lawyer-pastor/>.



The Wayback Machine is an initiative of the Internet Archive, a 501(c)(3) non-profit building a digital library of Internet sites and other cultural artifacts in digital form. Other projects include Open Library & archive-it.org.

Your use of the Wayback Machine is subject to the Internet Archive's Terms of Use



DONATE



<http://kellytshibaka.com/2015/11/02/sent-to-government>

Latest

Show All

Hrm.

The Wayback Machine has not archived that URL.

This page is available on the web!

Help make the Wayback Machine more complete!

Save this url in the Wayback Machine

Click here to search for all archived pages under

<http://kellytshibaka.com/2015/11/02/sent-to-government-kelly-tshibaka/>.



The Wayback Machine is an initiative of the Internet Archive, a 501(c)(3) non-profit building a digital library of Internet sites and other cultural artifacts in digital form. Other projects include [Open Library](#) & [archive-it.org](#).

Your use of the Wayback Machine is subject to the Internet Archive's [Terms of Use](#).

DONATE

INTERNET ARCHIVE  
**WayBack Machine**

<http://kellytshibaka.com/2015/11/05/style-and-strategy/>

Latest

Show All

**Hrm.**

The Wayback Machine has not archived that URL.

**This page is available on the web!**

Help make the Wayback Machine more complete!

Save this url in the Wayback Machine

Click here to search for all archived pages under  
<http://kellytshibaka.com/2015/11/05/style-and-strategy/>.



The Wayback Machine is an initiative of the Internet Archive, a 501(c)(3) non-profit building a digital library of Internet sites and other cultural artifacts in digital form. Other projects include Open Library & archive-it.org.

Your use of the Wayback Machine is subject to the Internet Archive's Terms of Use

DONATE

INTERNET ARCHIVE  
**WayBack Machine**

<http://kellytshibaka.com/2015/09/28/how-i-do-marketpla>

Latest

Show All

**Hrm.**

The Wayback Machine has not archived that URL.

**This page is available on the web!**

Help make the Wayback Machine more complete!

Save this url in the Wayback Machine

Click here to search for all archived pages under

<http://kellytshibaka.com/2015/09/28/how-i-do-marketplace-ministry-as-a-d-c-lawyer/>.



The Wayback Machine is an initiative of the Internet Archive, a 501(c)(3) non-profit building a digital library of Internet sites and other cultural artifacts in digital form. Other projects include [Open Library](#) & [archive-it.org](#)

Your use of the Wayback Machine is subject to the Internet Archive's [Terms of Use](#).

DONATE

INTERNET ARCHIVE  
**WayBack Machine**

<http://kellytshibaka.com/2015/10/12/my-thoughts-on-this-unconventional-pastor/>

Latest

Show All

**Hrm.**

The Wayback Machine has not archived that URL.

**This page is available on the web!**

Help make the Wayback Machine more complete!

Save this url in the Wayback Machine

Click here to search for all archived pages under  
<http://kellytshibaka.com/2015/10/12/my-thoughts-on-this-unconventional-pastor/>.



The Wayback Machine is an initiative of the Internet Archive, a 501(c)(3) non-profit building a digital library of Internet sites and other cultural artifacts in digital form. Other projects include [Open Library](#) & [archive-it.org](#)

Your use of the Wayback Machine is subject to the Internet Archive's [Terms of Use](#).

DONATE

INTERNET ARCHIVE  
WayBack Machine

<http://kellytshibaka.com/2015/10/08/give-others-freedom>

Latest

Show All

Hrm.

The Wayback Machine has not archived that URL.

This page is available on the web!

Help make the Wayback Machine more complete!

Save this url in the Wayback Machine

Click here to search for all archived pages under

<http://kellytshibaka.com/2015/10/08/give-others-freedom-to-minister/>.



The Wayback Machine is an initiative of the Internet Archive, a 501(c)(3) non-profit building a digital library of Internet sites and other cultural artifacts in digital form. Other projects include Open Library & archive-it.org.

Your use of the Wayback Machine is subject to the Internet Archive's Terms of Use



DONATE

INTERNET ARCHIVE  
**WayBack Machine**

<http://kellytshibaka.com/2015/09/28/how-i-do-marketpla>

Latest

Show All

**Hrm.**

The Wayback Machine has not archived that URL.

**This page is available on the web!**

Help make the Wayback Machine more complete!

Save this url in the Wayback Machine

Click here to search for all archived pages under

<http://kellytshibaka.com/2015/09/28/how-i-do-marketplace-ministry-as-a-d-c-lawyer/>.



The Wayback Machine is an initiative of the Internet Archive, a 501(c)(3) non-profit building a digital library of Internet sites and other cultural artifacts in digital form. Other projects include [Open Library](#) & [archive-it.org](#)

Your use of the Wayback Machine is subject to the Internet Archive's [Terms of Use](#).

DONATE



<http://kellytshibaka.com/2015/11/02/sent-to-government>

Latest

Show All

Hrm.

The Wayback Machine has not archived that URL.

This page is available on the web!

Help make the Wayback Machine more complete!

Save this url in the Wayback Machine

Click here to search for all archived pages under

<http://kellytshibaka.com/2015/11/02/sent-to-government-kelly-tshibaka/>.



The Wayback Machine is an initiative of the Internet Archive, a 501(c)(3) non-profit building a digital library of Internet sites and other cultural artifacts in digital form. Other projects include [Open Library](#) & [archive-it.org](#)

Your use of the Wayback Machine is subject to the Internet Archive's [Terms of Use](#).

DONATE

INTERNET ARCHIVE  
**WayBack Machine**

<http://kellytshibaka.com/2015/11/02/sent-to-government>

Latest

Show All

**Hrm.**

The Wayback Machine has not archived that URL.

**This page is available on the web!**

Help make the Wayback Machine more complete!

Save this url in the Wayback Machine

Click here to search for all archived pages under

<http://kellytshibaka.com/2015/11/02/sent-to-government-kelly-tshibaka/>.



The Wayback Machine is an initiative of the Internet Archive, a 501(c)(3) non-profit building a digital library of Internet sites and other cultural artifacts in digital form. Other projects include [Open Library](#) & [archive-it.org](#)

Your use of the Wayback Machine is subject to the Internet Archive's [Terms of Use](#).

DONATE



<http://kellytshibaka.com/2015/10/14/leadership-quotes-f>

Latest

Show All

Hrm.

The Wayback Machine has not archived that URL.

This page is available on the web!

Help make the Wayback Machine more complete!

Save this url in the Wayback Machine

Click here to search for all archived pages under  
<http://kellytshibaka.com/2015/10/14/leadership-quotes-from-secretary-of-state/>.



The Wayback Machine is an initiative of the Internet Archive, a 501(c)(3) non-profit building a digital library of Internet sites and other cultural artifacts in digital form. Other projects include [Open Library](#) & [archive-it.org](#).

Your use of the Wayback Machine is subject to the Internet Archive's [Terms of Use](#).

DONATE



<http://kellytshibaka.com/2015/11/12/thoughts-on-how-to>

Latest

Show All

Hrm.

The Wayback Machine has not archived that URL.

This page is available on the web!

Help make the Wayback Machine more complete!

Save this url in the Wayback Machine

Click here to search for all archived pages under  
<http://kellytshibaka.com/2015/11/12/thoughts-on-how-to-disciple/>.



The Wayback Machine is an initiative of the Internet Archive, a 501(c)(3) non-profit building a digital library of Internet sites and other cultural artifacts in digital form. Other projects include Open Library & archive-it.org.

Your use of the Wayback Machine is subject to the Internet Archive's Terms of Use



DONATE

INTERNET ARCHIVE  
WayBack Machine

<http://kellytshibaka.com/2015/09/30/waiting-for-dreams->

Latest

Show All

Hrm.

The Wayback Machine has not archived that URL.

This page is available on the web!

Help make the Wayback Machine more complete!

Save this url in the Wayback Machine

Click here to search for all archived pages under  
<http://kellytshibaka.com/2015/09/30/waiting-for-dreams-to-come-true/>.



The Wayback Machine is an initiative of the Internet Archive, a 501(c)(3) non-profit building a digital library of Internet sites and other cultural artifacts in digital form. Other projects include Open Library & archive-it.org.

Your use of the Wayback Machine is subject to the Internet Archive's Terms of Use

DONATE



<http://kellytshibaka.com/2015/11/02/sent-to-government>

Latest

Show All

Hrm.

The Wayback Machine has not archived that URL.

This page is available on the web!

Help make the Wayback Machine more complete!

Save this url in the Wayback Machine

Click here to search for all archived pages under

<http://kellytshibaka.com/2015/11/02/sent-to-government-kelly-tshibaka/>.



The Wayback Machine is an initiative of the Internet Archive, a 501(c)(3) non-profit building a digital library of Internet sites and other cultural artifacts in digital form. Other projects include [Open Library](#) & [archive-it.org](#).

Your use of the Wayback Machine is subject to the Internet Archive's [Terms of Use](#).

DONATE



<http://kellytshibaka.com/2015/11/05/style-and-strategy/>

Latest

Show All

Hrm.

The Wayback Machine has not archived that URL.

This page is available on the web!

Help make the Wayback Machine more complete!

Save this url in the Wayback Machine

Click here to search for all archived pages under  
<http://kellytshibaka.com/2015/11/05/style-and-strategy/>.



The Wayback Machine is an initiative of the Internet Archive, a 501(c)(3) non-profit building a digital library of Internet sites and other cultural artifacts in digital form. Other projects include Open Library & archive-it.org.

Your use of the Wayback Machine is subject to the Internet Archive's Terms of Use

DONATE



<http://kellytshibaka.com/2015/11/12/thoughts-on-how-to>

Latest

Show All

Hrm.

The Wayback Machine has not archived that URL.

This page is available on the web!

Help make the Wayback Machine more complete!

Save this url in the Wayback Machine

Click here to search for all archived pages under  
<http://kellytshibaka.com/2015/11/12/thoughts-on-how-to-disciple/>.



The Wayback Machine is an initiative of the Internet Archive, a 501(c)(3) non-profit building a digital library of Internet sites and other cultural artifacts in digital form. Other projects include Open Library & archive-it.org.

Your use of the Wayback Machine is subject to the Internet Archive's Terms of Use

DONATE



<http://kellytshibaka.com/2015/10/12/my-thoughts-on-this-unconventional-pastor/>

Latest

Show All

Hrm.

The Wayback Machine has not archived that URL.

This page is available on the web!

Help make the Wayback Machine more complete!

Save this url in the Wayback Machine

Click here to search for all archived pages under  
<http://kellytshibaka.com/2015/10/12/my-thoughts-on-this-unconventional-pastor/>.



The Wayback Machine is an initiative of the Internet Archive, a 501(c)(3) non-profit building a digital library of Internet sites and other cultural artifacts in digital form. Other projects include [Open Library](#) & [archive-it.org](#).

Your use of the Wayback Machine is subject to the Internet Archive's [Terms of Use](#).



[DONATE](#)


<http://kellytshibaka.com/2015/10/06/how-i-see-out-a-mentor/>

Latest

Show All

Hrm.

The Wayback Machine has not archived that URL.

This page is available on the web!

Help make the Wayback Machine more complete!

Save this url in the Wayback Machine

Click here to search for all archived pages under  
<http://kellytshibaka.com/2015/10/06/how-i-see-out-a-mentor/>.



The Wayback Machine is an initiative of the Internet Archive, a 501(c)(3) non-profit building a digital library of Internet sites and other cultural artifacts in digital form. Other projects include Open Library & archive-it.org.

Your use of the Wayback Machine is subject to the Internet Archive's Terms of Use

```

<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?><rss version="2.0"
  xmlns:content="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/content/"
  xmlns:dc="http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/"
  xmlns:atom="http://www.w3.org/2005/Atom"
  xmlns:sy="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/syndication/"
  xmlns:georss="http://www.georss.org/georss" xmlns:geo="http://www.w3.org/2003/01/geo/wgs84_pos#" xmlns:media="http://search.yahoo.com/mrss/"
  >
<channel>
  <title>Comments on: Principles for Helping Me Remain Open to Submitting to God's Plan for My Life</title>
  <atom:link href="http://kellytshibaka.com/2015/02/11/principles-for-helping-me-remain-open-to-submitting-to-gods-plan-for-my-life/feed/" rel="self"
type="application/rss+xml" />
  <link>http://kellytshibaka.com/2015/02/11/principles-for-helping-me-remain-open-to-submitting-to-gods-plan-for-my-life/</link>
  <description></description>
  <lastBuildDate>Sat, 12 Mar 2016 00:26:29 +0000</lastBuildDate>
  <sy:updatePeriod>hourly</sy:updatePeriod>
  <sy:updateFrequency>1</sy:updateFrequency>
  <generator>http://wordpress.com/</generator>
  <item>
    <title>By: Isaac Hovet</title>
    <link>http://kellytshibaka.com/2015/02/11/principles-for-helping-me-remain-open-to-submitting-to-gods-plan-for-my-life/#comment-28136</link>
    <dc:creator><![CDATA[Isaac Hovet]]></dc:creator>
    <pubDate>Wed, 25 Feb 2015 19:00:57 +0000</pubDate>
    <guid isPermaLink="false">http://kellytshibaka.com/?p=1541#comment-28136</guid>
    <description><![CDATA[Thank you Kelly! Much respect from the West!
This whole "act quickly" was challenging. Ouch. I tend to delay on acting on promptings. Thank you for the <b> reminder </b>]]>
</description>
    <content:encoded><![CDATA[<p>Thank you Kelly! Much respect from the West!</p>
<p>This whole "act quickly" was challenging. Ouch. I tend to delay on acting on promptings. Thank you for the <b> reminder </b></p>
]]></content:encoded>
    </item>
    <item>
      <title>By: Tim Mossholder</title>
      <link>http://kellytshibaka.com/2015/02/11/principles-for-helping-me-remain-open-to-submitting-to-gods-plan-for-my-life/#comment-27647</link>
      <dc:creator><![CDATA[Tim Mossholder]]></dc:creator>
      <pubDate>Thu, 12 Feb 2015 05:31:20 +0000</pubDate>
      <guid isPermaLink="false">http://kellytshibaka.com/?p=1541#comment-27647</guid>
      <description><![CDATA[Thanks, Kelly! Just reposted these excellent reminders.]]></description>
      <content:encoded><![CDATA[<p>Thanks, Kelly! Just reposted these excellent reminders.</p>
]]></content:encoded>
    </item>
  </channel>
</rss>

```

DONATE



<http://kellytshibaka.com/2016/03/06/thoughts-on-balance>

Latest

Show All

Hrm.

The Wayback Machine has not archived that URL.

This page is available on the web!

Help make the Wayback Machine more complete!

Save this url in the Wayback Machine

Click here to search for all archived pages under  
<http://kellytshibaka.com/2016/03/06/thoughts-on-balancing-life/>.



The Wayback Machine is an initiative of the Internet Archive, a 501(c)(3) non-profit building a digital library of Internet sites and other cultural artifacts in digital form. Other projects include Open Library & archive-it.org.

Your use of the Wayback Machine is subject to the Internet Archive's Terms of Use

DONATE

INTERNET ARCHIVE  
**WayBack Machine**

<http://kellytshibaka.com/2016/03/06/test/>

Latest

Show All

**Hrm.**

The Wayback Machine has not archived that URL.

**This page is available on the web!**

Help make the Wayback Machine more complete!

Save this url in the Wayback Machine

Click here to search for all archived pages under  
<http://kellytshibaka.com/2016/03/06/test/>.



The Wayback Machine is an initiative of the Internet Archive, a 501(c)(3) non-profit building a digital library of Internet sites and other cultural artifacts in digital form. Other projects include Open Library & archive-it.org.

Your use of the Wayback Machine is subject to the Internet Archive's Terms of Use

DONATE



<http://kellytshibaka.com/2016/03/08/morning-run-poem/>

Latest

Show All

Hrm.

The Wayback Machine has not archived that URL.

This page is available on the web!

Help make the Wayback Machine more complete!

Save this url in the Wayback Machine

Click here to search for all archived pages under  
<http://kellytshibaka.com/2016/03/08/morning-run-poem/>.



The Wayback Machine is an initiative of the Internet Archive, a 501(c)(3) non-profit building a digital library of Internet sites and other cultural artifacts in digital form. Other projects include Open Library & archive-it.org.

Your use of the Wayback Machine is subject to the Internet Archive's Terms of Use



DONATE



<http://kellytshibaka.com/2016/03/11/my-unexpected-pregnancy/>

Latest

Show All

Hrm.

The Wayback Machine has not archived that URL.

This page is available on the web!

Help make the Wayback Machine more complete!

Save this url in the Wayback Machine

Click here to search for all archived pages under  
<http://kellytshibaka.com/2016/03/11/my-unexpected-pregnancy/>.



The Wayback Machine is an initiative of the Internet Archive, a 501(c)(3) non-profit building a digital library of Internet sites and other cultural artifacts in digital form. Other projects include Open Library & archive-it.org.

Your use of the Wayback Machine is subject to the Internet Archive's Terms of Use

22  
Tuesday  
Mar 2016

## Gifts from Thoughtful Givers

Posted by [Tshibaka in Uncategorized](#)

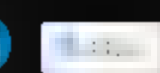
[Leave a comment](#)

Every now and then, people from our church sends us gifts in the mail (fruit and cheese baskets), make us dinner, or leave anonymous care packages at our front door. Every time this happens, it totally encourages our hearts and lifts our spirits. It's remarkable how much these acts of thoughtfulness and kindness really help us to keep loving and serving.

We don't always get to say thank you because we don't always know who did it. But every time, these acts of thoughtful giving always make our day! These givers have inspired me to go and do likewise. There is such joy in giving – I've found it's one of the quickest ways to to turn down days around!



SHARE THIS



Loading...

Comments are closed

### RECENT POSTS

[Gifts from Thoughtful Givers](#)  
[Measuring Character](#)  
[15 Trivia Facts About Me](#)  
[My Unexpected Pregnancy](#)  
[Morning Run Poem](#)

### PAGES

[Blog](#)  
[Contact](#)  
[Favorites](#)  
[Kelly Tshibaka](#)  
[Resources](#)  
[Speaking](#)

Search...

Go

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?><rss version="2.0"
  xmlns:content="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/content/"
  xmlns:dc="http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/"
  xmlns:atom="http://www.w3.org/2005/Atom"
  xmlns:sy="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/syndication/"
  xmlns:georss="http://www.georss.org/georss" xmlns:geo="http://www.w3.org/2003/01/geo/wgs84_pos#" xmlns:media="http://search.yahoo.com/mrss/"
>
<channel>
  <title>Comments on: Charlie Charlie Challenge: How We&#8217;re Guiding Our Kids as Christians</title>
  <atom:link href="http://kellytshibaka.com/2015/06/04/charlie-charlie-challenge-how-were-guiding-our-kids-as-christians/feed/" rel="self"
type="application/rss+xml" />
  <link>http://kellytshibaka.com/2015/06/04/charlie-charlie-challenge-how-were-guiding-our-kids-as-christians/</link>
  <description></description>
  <lastBuildDate>Sat, 12 Mar 2016 00:26:29 +0000</lastBuildDate>
  <sy:updatePeriod>hourly</sy:updatePeriod>
  <sy:updateFrequency>1</sy:updateFrequency>
  <generator>http://wordpress.com/</generator>
  <item>
    <title>By: Tim Mossholder</title>
    <link>http://kellytshibaka.com/2015/06/04/charlie-charlie-challenge-how-were-guiding-our-kids-as-christians/#comment-28668</link>
    <dc:creator><![CDATA[Tim Mossholder]]></dc:creator>
    <pubDate>Fri, 05 Jun 2015 01:10:34 +0000</pubDate>
    <guid isPermaLink="false">http://kellytshibaka.com/?p=1543#comment-28668</guid>
    <description><![CDATA[Excellent perspective, Kelly! I&#039;m sharing this with my church family. Thanks for your wisdom and grace.]]>
</description>
    <content:encoded><![CDATA[<p>Excellent perspective, Kelly! I&#8217;m sharing this with my church family. Thanks for your wisdom and grace.</p>
]]></content:encoded>
  </item>
</channel>
</rss>
```

25  
Friday  
Mar 2016

## I Love Sonic!

Posted by KESHIRAKA IN Uncategorized

[LEAVE A COMMENT](#)

Ever since my days living in Texas, I have loved Sonic! Nikl has loved it, too. So much so that one day come on before we had kids, we drove two hours south to get Sonic, and drive back. It was a day to remember!

So imagine our joy as Sonic has gradually moved North. Our commutes to Sonic have gotten shorter and shorter, thankfully. And I'm ecstatic that they now have opened one about 15 minutes from our house!! Like as ecstatic as my Seattle friends are about Starbucks!

I took the kids there shortly after it opened. A brand new spectacular Sonic!! I've never seen one better and I am really looking forward to all the memories we are going to share there.



SHARE THIS



Loading...

Comments are closed.

### RECENT POSTS

[I Love Sonic!](#)  
[Gifts from Thoughtful Gloves](#)  
[Measuring Character](#)  
[15 Trivia Facts About Me](#)  
[My Unexpected Pregnancy](#)

### PAGES

[Blog](#)  
[Contact](#)  
[Favorites](#)  
[Kelly Tahiraka](#)  
[Resources](#)  
[Speaking](#)

Search

10

## Navigating Marketplace Ministry

at Thursday, Mar 2016

Posted by [Kelly Tshibaka](#) on 03/20/2016

[\\* Leave a comment](#)

**Q:** I’ve had it in my heart to meet with other Christians in my workplace and pray, read scripture and encourage each other. So a couple weeks ago I had lunch, read scripture and prayed with a coworker. Last week we had another person join us and did the same. 1 of them reports to the same manager as me. What are your thoughts about me leading a Bible study that includes a coworker with the same boss? Also what are your thoughts about conducting marketplace ministry in general?

This is fantastic! I’m so excited for you and for what Jesus is doing through you! First, make sure your workplace doesn’t have any guidance or policy on religious expression in the workplace that your actions would violate. If not, then the White House Memorandum on Religious Expression in the Federal Workplace is a safe framework to follow. In short,

- Have Bible studies and prayer time only on your personal time (e.g., before or after work, during lunch break);
- Refrain from behaviors that interfere with your organization’s ability to perform its mission;
- Avoid being perceived by a reasonable person as endorsing Christianity as an agent or representative of your employer;
- Never base hiring, promotion, or workplace favor on someone’s religion (e.g., don’t give someone the available office because they go to your Bible study);
- Don’t coerce participation in the Bible study, shame those who don’t come, or otherwise create a religiously hostile environment

The other critical aspect of this memo is that it explicitly states “agencies shall permit employees to engage in personal religious expression to the greatest extent possible.” In my experience, believers in the workplace often curtail their religious freedoms far more than rules or law require (and usually even more than culture requires!). In fact, I’ve found that when I am open in my expression of faith (like leading or going to Bible studies, talking to people about God, or praying with people), many others begin to feel free to be open with their faith, too. There’s a lot more believers out there looking for community than I could ever imagine.

That said, the greatest risk you face is someone in your workplace being offended by what you’re doing, creating a religiously hostile environment for you, and complaining about what you’re doing. I’ve found that this risk causes many believers to hide in fear and rarely, if ever, engage in the kind of faith-based activities you are. To me, though, accepting that risk is akin to what Peter said in Acts 5:29 – “We must obey God rather than men.” Later that same chapter, he says the Jewish leaders “flogged them and ordered them not to speak in the name of Jesus, and then released them. So they went on their way from the presence of the Council, rejoicing that they had been considered worthy to suffer shame for His name.” Inspired by this passage, I’ve chosen to “speak in the name of Jesus.” And if they flog me or I suffer shame for it, then it’s an opportunity to rejoice (a lot easier said than done, but still).

Share this:

Like this:

Like Loading...

### Related

### Post navigation

Comments are closed.

### Recent Posts

- [The Church and the Marketplace](#)
- [The Church and the Marketplace](#)
- [The Church and the Marketplace](#)
- [The Church and the Marketplace](#)
- [The Church and the Marketplace](#)

### Pages

- [Home](#)
- [About](#)
- [Contact](#)
- [Privacy Policy](#)
- [Terms of Service](#)
- [Disclaimer](#)
- [Sitemap](#)

Search

[Blog at WordPress.com.](#) [The Chateau Theme](#)

[Full Screen](#)

### Follow " "

Get every new post delivered to your Inbox.

[Join 5,555 other followers](#)

Sign me up!

[WordPress.com](#) [The Chateau Theme](#)





Hewed & Resplendent

25 Friday, Jun 2019

Posted by [hewings](#) on 6/25/19

4 Comments

Came across these oh-so-cool words in Psalms: hewed (God hewed the enemy of Israel) and resplendent (God is resplendent). (Definitions from m-w.com)

**HEWED**  
Main Entry: hew  
Pronunciation: \ˈhyū/  
Function: verb  
Inflected Form(s): hewed; hewed or hewn \ˈhyūn\; hew-ing  
Etymology: Middle English, from Old English hēawan; akin to Old High German houwan to hew, Lithuanian kasti to forge, Latin cudere to beat  
Date: before 12th century  
transitive verb  
1 : to cut with blows of a heavy cutting instrument  
2 : to fell by blows of an ax  
3 : to give form or shape to with or as if with heavy cutting blows  
intransitive verb  
1 : to make cutting blows  
2 : conform, adhere —often used in the phrase hew to the line  
== hew-er noun  
**RESPLENDENT**  
Main Entry: re-splen-dent  
Pronunciation: \-dənt/  
Function: adjective  
Etymology: Middle English, from Latin resplendent-, resplendens, present participle of resplendēre to shine back, from re- = splendēre to shine == more at splendi  
Date: 15th century  
: shining brilliantly : characterized by a glowing splendor  
synonyms see splendid  
== re-splen-dent-ly adverb

Share this:




Like this:

Like Loading...


Related

Post navigation


4 thoughts on "Hewed & Resplendent"

- 

[Savannah](#) said:

You'll desire your tag, logo, as well as name line to establish you apart.
- 

[Newton](#) said:

periodically, study and also draft a charm brief guarding a final rejection of a hallmark application.
- 

[ncvjtyf@gmail.com](#) said:

my bare sunglasses australi

Leave a Reply

Recent Posts

- [How to Write a Book Proposal](#)
- [How to Write a Book Proposal](#)
- [How to Write a Book Proposal](#)
- [How to Write a Book Proposal](#)
- [How to Write a Book Proposal](#)
- [How to Write a Book Proposal](#)

Pages

- [Home](#)
- [About](#)
- [Contact](#)
- [Privacy Policy](#)
- [Terms of Service](#)
- [Disclaimer](#)
- [Sitemap](#)

Search..

Go

Blog at [WordPress.com](#).

Follow " "

Get every new post delivered to your inbox.

Enter your email address below.

Sign me up!

Blog at [WordPress.com](#).



07  
Thursday  
April 2016

## Leading a Bible Study at Work

Posted by KESHIRAKA IN Uncategorized

Leave a comment

After my last blog post, I was asked about specific tips for starting a Bible study at work. *How, practically, have you done this?* (BTW, most of these tips are also applicable to how to plant a church)

### Identify the Purpose (Start with WHY)

First, figure out the purpose for the group. For example, is it to create a community for believers at work? Share your faith with pre-believers? Study the Bible—geared towards Christians? Study the Bible—geared towards anyone? Be a group of believers with a common interest (e.g., basketball + devotional). Once you have a vision and purpose defined for the group, it's a lot easier to know what to do. (I always celebrate starting with the WHY and then moving to the HOW and then the WHAT).

### Same Time and Place

Having a regular, predictable, consistent meeting time encourages commitment and participation.

### Articulate and Repeat Expectations

Develop these together in the first meeting(s) and then reiterate them at subsequent meetings or as needed. For example, what are the ground rules for confidentiality? What about inviting other people? Respecting differences in faith? Regular attendance? Communication in between group times?

### Give Clear Direction

Without vision, people perish. There's a balance between providing direction and being heavy handed, involving others and being too collaborative. If you aren't totally set on an approach, I suggest giving the group 2-3 options — all of which are consistent with your vision and where you'd like to take the group — and get their input and feedback. Go with what they choose, and repeat it at subsequent groups.

### Set a Time Frame for the Group

It seems that 6-week groups tend to be more successful (in terms of effectiveness and consistent participation) than longer groups. Indefinite groups seem to inevitably fatigue. Find a time frame that 1) works for you, and 2) works for the work schedule. For example, running a group from mid-September to right before Thanksgiving works well. Participation in December will be predictably lower. As will participation in mid-June through August. If you're on the budget team, then take a break at the end of the fiscal year! A time frame allows you to take breaks, allows new people to join, and allows people who need a break to step out graciously. It also allows you to develop different themes for each time frame.

### Let Them Talk

I learned this one the hard way: the more the group members talk (and the less you talk), the more they'll get out of it, the more likely they'll be to come back, and the more Bible insight you'll all get as a whole.

### Use Open Ended Questions

I found conversation more easily happens with "What" and "How" questions. Also prompts like, "Tell me more about that" or "I'd like to hear about/how..." Wait 7 seconds through that totally awkward silence. Count slowly! That's about how long it takes for someone to jump in to break the awkwardness. If someone doesn't, be ready to go with another prompt and wait 7 seconds. (BTW, you gotta be okay with awkward if you're going to do this!)

### Have Content Ready

Whether you prepare your own Bible study (I've done this a couple times by adapting books I've read to material digestible for small groups), simply work through a section of scripture, use the *Lectio Divina* method, have rotating devotions, or use para church ministry tools, I've found it's best to let the group know in advance what you're going to do and then stick to it.

### Follow the Leader

If you happen to be attending someone else's group, or if you happen to be using a method that rotates the group leader, then when it's not your turn to lead, follow the leader. Even if the leader could be doing it better, or messes up, or is clunky and awkward in their leadership, the group will be far more edified by your submission and support than by your superiority and sanctity. We can preach Jesus and we can display Jesus. Following the leader is a way of reflecting his gentle and lowly heart.

(Important side note — if the leader messes up in a big way, like promotes heresy or acts unlovingly towards someone else, then please offer correction! Usually, though, it's most effective to do this one-on-one because most messer-uppers aren't so out of line that they necessitate public rebuke. Most...)

### Nobody Has All the Answers

If someone in the group asks you a question you don't know the answer to, I've found it's best to either say, "Hm — I'm not sure. Can I look into that more and get back to you?" Or to say something like, "Yeah, that's something I don't fully understand/can't fully explain either. I'm okay holding doubt and belief at the same time." (Side note — if you *do* know all the answers, please don't lead a Bible study or any other ministry.)

### Speaking of Being Okay

So, being straight up here, there are times it's going to be rough. Most the time "rough" looks like rejection or failure (why aren't they coming any more?). Sometimes "rough" looks like people being mean, rude, or even filing official complaints against you. All of the time it's not really the people who are against you—we don't *fight flesh and blood, but powers and principalities*. It's totally predictable that when you start being light in dark places, sharing love with lonely people, and embracing truth in a *what-is-truth* world, you're going catch some heat. Haha! Guess that's why the Bible tells us that if we believe, we will suffer. But take heart, we will be baptized and refined in this fire!



Comments are closed

#### Recent Posts

Leading a Bible Study at Work  
Navigating Marketplace Ministry  
I Love Sonic!  
Gifts from Thoughtful Givers  
Measuring Character

#### PAGES

Blog  
Contact  
Favorites  
Kelly Tashiraka  
Resources  
Speaking

Search...

Go

11  
Monday  
Apr 2015

## On My Joy Journey

POWERED BY KESHBRAKA IN UNCATEGORIZED

LEAVE A COMMENT

*"He was trying to remember if he was happy when the happiness was happening."*

I heard this quote in the movie *Love the Coopers*, and it resonated with me in a surprising way. I think that's happened to me more often than I'd like to admit. I look back at pictures of happy times and wonder why I didn't feel happy at the time.

It's taken me awhile, but I figured it out — I have a joy deficiency. It's like a vitamin deficiency, except you can't buy it at GNC. Sigh. Rather, it's a thought deficiency. I'm flooded with non-joy thoughts.

But guess what?! I've been able to build up joy by journaling, keeping a list of things for which I'm grateful, praying for the joy of the Lord (it IS a fruit of the Spirit, after all), and reading a book a mentor suggested, [Joy Starts Here](#). I'm still on my joy journey, but glad to know that I'm making progress!



Loading...

Comments are closed.

### RECENT POSTS

[On My Joy Journey](#)  
[Leading a Bible Study at Work](#)  
[Navigating Marketplace Ministry](#)  
[I Love Sonic!](#)  
[Gifts from Thoughtful Givers](#)

### PAGES

[Blog](#)  
[Contact](#)  
[Favorites](#)  
[Kelly Tshibaka](#)  
[Resources](#)  
[Speaking](#)

Search...

Go

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?><rss version="2.0"
  xmlns:content="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/content/"
  xmlns:dc="http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/"
  xmlns:atom="http://www.w3.org/2005/Atom"
  xmlns:sy="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/syndication/"
  xmlns:georss="http://www.georss.org/georss" xmlns:geo="http://www.w3.org/2003/01/geo/wgs84_pos#" xmlns:media="http://search.yahoo.com/mrss/"
  >
<channel>
  <title>Comments on: How to Handle Fear and Panic at Work</title>
  <atom:link href="http://kellytshibaka.com/2015/06/23/how-to-handle-fear-and-panic-at-work/feed/" rel="self" type="application/rss+xml" />
  <link>http://kellytshibaka.com/2015/06/23/how-to-handle-fear-and-panic-at-work/</link>
  <description></description>
  <lastBuildDate>Sat, 12 Mar 2016 00:26:29 +0000</lastBuildDate>
  <sy:updatePeriod>hourly</sy:updatePeriod>
  <sy:updateFrequency>1</sy:updateFrequency>
  <generator>http://wordpress.com/</generator>
</channel>
</rss>
```

14  
Thursday  
Apr 2016

# Overcoming Brutality with Love

Posted by [TSHIBAKA](#) in [Uncategorized](#)

[Leave a comment](#)

A message from my friend in the Democratic Republic of the Congo who is working with women and children brutalized by horrific rape and violence. Read more on [Jenni's Journeys here](#).

Share this:



Leading

Comments are closed.

## RECENT POSTS

[Overcoming Brutality with Love](#)  
[On My Joy Journey](#)  
[Leading a Bible Study at Work](#)  
[Navigating Marketplace Ministry](#)  
[I Love Soul!](#)

## PAGES

[Blog](#)  
[Contact](#)  
[Favorites](#)  
[Kelly Tshibaka](#)  
[Resources](#)  
[Speaking](#)

Search...

Go



```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?><rss version="2.0"
  xmlns:content="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/content/"
  xmlns:dc="http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/"
  xmlns:atom="http://www.w3.org/2005/Atom"
  xmlns:sy="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/syndication/"
  xmlns:georss="http://www.georss.org/georss" xmlns:geo="http://www.w3.org/2003/01/geo/wgs84_pos#" xmlns:media="http://search.yahoo.com/mrss/"
>
<channel>
  <title>Comments on: Sword in the Sheath</title>
  <atom:link href="http://kellytshibaka.com/2014/09/25/sword-in-the-sheath/feed/" rel="self" type="application/rss+xml" />
  <link>http://kellytshibaka.com/2014/09/25/sword-in-the-sheath/</link>
  <description></description>
  <lastBuildDate>Sat, 12 Mar 2016 00:26:29 +0000</lastBuildDate>
  <sy:updatePeriod>hourly</sy:updatePeriod>
  <sy:updateFrequency>1</sy:updateFrequency>
  <generator>http://wordpress.com/</generator>
  <item>
    <title>By: Isaac Hovet</title>
    <link>http://kellytshibaka.com/2014/09/25/sword-in-the-sheath/#comment-19829</link>
    <dc:creator><![CDATA[Isaac Hovet]]></dc:creator>
    <pubDate>Thu, 25 Sep 2014 11:50:17 +0000</pubDate>
    <guid isPermaLink="false">http://kellytshibaka.com/?p=1536#comment-19829</guid>
    <description><![CDATA[That is good for us all! I am opening my bible now! Great reminder and so pithy! You've got great kids! High fives from
the Best Coast! Err, I meant "WEST"; coast.
ijh BLOG: *www.isaachovet.com * CHURCH: *www.cg4.tv * EQ: *www.turnaroundchurch.com * LIFE: *www.facebook.com/ihovet * TWEETING: *www.twitter.com/isaachovet *]]>
</description>
    <content:encoded><![CDATA[<p>That is good for us all! I am opening my bible now! Great reminder and so pithy! You've got great kids! High
fives from the Best Coast! Err, I meant "WEST"; coast. </p>
<p>ijh BLOG: *www.isaachovet.com * CHURCH: *www.cg4.tv * EQ: *www.turnaroundchurch.com * LIFE: *www.facebook.com/ihovet * TWEETING: *www.twitter.com/isaachovet *
</p>
]]></content:encoded>
    </item>
  </channel>
</rss>
```

09  
Monday  
May 2016

## Stick to What You Want

POSTED BY KELLY TABIBAKA IN UNCATEGORIZED

LEAVE A COMMENT

### My Grandma's Obituary

Shortly after our first daughter was born, I arranged to have a family photo shoot, complete with a shot of four generations of women—from my “Granma” down to baby Button. I asked everyone to wear maroon or white so the photo would be color coordinated. It would be an heirloom photo, capturing our family matriarchal legacy in a moment.

Granma came out of the house wearing hot pink. Hot. Pink.

I challenged her on it, tried to get her to wear maroon or white, explained how hot pink would clash with all the other colors in the photo, made the “legacy moment” argument...but to no avail. Granma was set. She was wearing pink. “What?! Isn’t it pretty?!”

So we took the shot. 3 of us in maroon and white, and one of us in a clash-awful hot pink.

Granma has since passed, and that photo hangs in our home to this day. While I was irritated that day, when I look at it now, I smile. Granma was full of pickles and vinegar. She was right all the time — just ask her. And she was immovable. Whether it was about political beliefs, bucking all social norms to leave her homestead farm and go to college, or wearing hot pink to a maroon-and-white photo shoot, Granma stuck to what she wanted.

Yes, Granma could’ve handled the situation more diplomatically. Yes, Granma could’ve expressed her disagreement with the color scheme before we left for the photo shoot. Yes, Granma could’ve chosen another battle to fight. But every time I see that clash-orrific picture, I see a woman who know who she was, knew what she wanted, and didn’t let anyone else’s opinions change that.

And that’s a matriarchal legacy worth capturing.



Previous page

Comments are closed.

#### RECENT POSTS

Stick to What You Want  
Overcoming Brutality with Love  
On My Joy Journey  
Leading a Bible Study at Work  
Navigating Marketplace Ministry

#### PAGES

Blog  
Contact  
Favorites  
Kelly Tabibaka  
Resources  
Speaking

Search...

Go

11  
Saturday  
Jun 2016

## How Working Moms Feel

Posted by TSHIBAKA in Uncategorized

[View comments](#)



A friend recently filled me in on life back-to-work after recently having a baby. Her words captured "years" of experience for me, I felt like these could have been penned by "Every Working Mom." So I'm passing them along to resonate with your heart or to give you insight into

many women's lives as I surround you.

We're doing the best we possibly can be doing. The baby is still unbelievably perfect, sleeping through the night, breastfeeding like a champ, and adjusting so well to having a nanny. I'm discouraged by fluctuations in my milk supply, having to travel for work more than I thought I would, and not feeling successful either at work or at home.

My traveling is hard on all of us--my husband has to drop everything, I can't participate in work events like I want to, and don't even get me started on the number of hours that I sit on toilets in dirty bathrooms trying not to be embarrassed by the whirl of the breast pump.

But somehow, God loves us and wants us to thrive. Two days ago, our nanny asked for two more cloth diapers, and I was thinking, "now when the heck am I going to find the time to buy two more cloth diapers?" And guess what showed up in a package at my work. TWO CLOTH DIAPERS. Apparently God even cares about our baby's poop.

Photo: TSHIBAKA

Reading

Comments are closed.

### RECENT POSTS

How Working Moms Feel  
Teach Me How to Be a Dad  
Stick to What You Want  
Overcoming Brutality with Love  
On My Joy Journey

### PAGES

Blog  
Contact  
Favorites  
Kelly Tshibaka  
Resources  
Speaking

Search...

Go



This site is marked private by its owner. If you would like to view it, you'll need two things:

1. A WordPress.com account. Don't have an account? All you need is an email address and password — [register here!](#)
2. Permission from the site owner. Once you've created an account, log in and revisit this screen to request an invite.

If you already have both of these, great!

[Log in here](#)

[Back to WordPress.com](#)

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?><rss version="2.0"
  xmlns:content="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/content/"
  xmlns:dc="http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/"
  xmlns:atom="http://www.w3.org/2005/Atom"
  xmlns:sy="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/syndication/"
  xmlns:georss="http://www.georss.org/georss" xmlns:geo="http://www.w3.org/2003/01/geo/wgs84_pos#" xmlns:media="http://search.yahoo.com/mrss/"
>
<channel>
  <title>Comments on: Be Confident in the Lord</title>
  <atom:link href="https://kellytshibaka.com/2015/09/21/be-confident-in-the-lord/feed/" rel="self" type="application/rss+xml" />
  <link>https://kellytshibaka.com/2015/09/21/be-confident-in-the-lord/</link>
  <description></description>
  <lastBuildDate>Sat, 12 Mar 2016 00:26:29 +0000</lastBuildDate>
  <sy:updatePeriod>hourly</sy:updatePeriod>
  <sy:updateFrequency>1</sy:updateFrequency>
  <generator>http://wordpress.com/</generator>
  <item>
    <title>By: Pastor Timothy</title>
    <link>https://kellytshibaka.com/2015/09/21/be-confident-in-the-lord/#comment-29583</link>
    <dc:creator><![CDATA[Pastor Timothy]]></dc:creator>
    <pubDate>Wed, 23 Sep 2015 15:16:17 +0000</pubDate>
    <guid isPermaLink="false">http://kellytshibaka.com/?p=1547#comment-29583</guid>
    <description><![CDATA[You are an Awesome woman of God!!!]]></description>
    <content:encoded><![CDATA[<p>You are an Awesome woman of God!!!</p>
]]></content:encoded>
  </item>
</channel>
</rss>
```

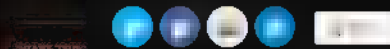


```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?><rss version="2.0"
  xmlns:content="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/content/"
  xmlns:dc="http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/"
  xmlns:atom="http://www.w3.org/2005/Atom"
  xmlns:sy="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/syndication/"
  xmlns:georss="http://www.georss.org/georss" xmlns:geo="http://www.w3.org/2003/01/geo/wgs84_pos#" xmlns:media="http://search.yahoo.com/mrss/"
  >
<channel>
  <title>Comments on: Juggling It All</title>
  <atom:link href="https://kellytshibaka.com/2015/09/25/juggling-it-all/feed/" rel="self" type="application/rss+xml" />
  <link>https://kellytshibaka.com/2015/09/25/juggling-it-all/</link>
  <description></description>
  <lastBuildDate>Sat, 12 Mar 2016 00:26:29 +0000</lastBuildDate>
  <sy:updatePeriod>hourly</sy:updatePeriod>
  <sy:updateFrequency>1</sy:updateFrequency>
  <generator>http://wordpress.com/</generator>
</channel>
</rss>
```

08  
Thursday  
Sep 2016

## One of \*Those\* Days

## POSTGRADUATE COURSES IN FINANCIAL MARKETS



## RECENT POSTS

### How Dad/Husband Can Help in Labor and Post Partum

## PAGE 4

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?><rss version="2.0"
  xmlns:content="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/content/"
  xmlns:dc="http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/"
  xmlns:atom="http://www.w3.org/2005/Atom"
  xmlns:sy="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/syndication/"
  xmlns:georss="http://www.georss.org/georss" xmlns:geo="http://www.w3.org/2003/01/geo/wgs84_pos#" xmlns:media="http://search.yahoo.com/mrss/"
  >
<channel>
  <title>Comments on: How I Do &#8220;Marketplace Ministry&#8221; as a D.C. Lawyer</title>
  <atom:link href="https://kellytshibaka.com/2015/09/28/how-i-do-marketplace-ministry-as-a-d-c-lawyer/feed/" rel="self" type="application/rss+xml" />
  <link>https://kellytshibaka.com/2015/09/28/how-i-do-marketplace-ministry-as-a-d-c-lawyer/</link>
  <description></description>
  <lastBuildDate>Sat, 12 Mar 2016 00:26:29 +0000</lastBuildDate>
  <sy:updatePeriod>hourly</sy:updatePeriod>
  <sy:updateFrequency>1</sy:updateFrequency>
  <generator>http://wordpress.com/</generator>
</channel>
</rss>
```

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?><rss version="2.0"
  xmlns:content="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/content/"
  xmlns:dc="http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/"
  xmlns:atom="http://www.w3.org/2005/Atom"
  xmlns:sy="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/syndication/"
  xmlns:georss="http://www.georss.org/georss" xmlns:geo="http://www.w3.org/2003/01/geo/wgs84_pos#" xmlns:media="http://search.yahoo.com/mrss/"
  >
<channel>
  <title>Comments on: Waiting for Dreams to Come True</title>
  <atom:link href="https://kellytshibaka.com/2015/09/30/waiting-for-dreams-to-come-true/feed/" rel="self" type="application/rss+xml" />
  <link>https://kellytshibaka.com/2015/09/30/waiting-for-dreams-to-come-true/</link>
  <description></description>
  <lastBuildDate>Sat, 12 Mar 2016 00:26:29 +0000</lastBuildDate>
  <sy:updatePeriod>hourly</sy:updatePeriod>
  <sy:updateFrequency>1</sy:updateFrequency>
  <generator>http://wordpress.com/</generator>
</channel>
</rss>
```

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?><rss version="2.0"
  xmlns:content="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/content/"
  xmlns:dc="http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/"
  xmlns:atom="http://www.w3.org/2005/Atom"
  xmlns:sy="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/syndication/"
  xmlns:georss="http://www.georss.org/georss" xmlns:geo="http://www.w3.org/2003/01/geo/wgs84_pos#" xmlns:media="http://search.yahoo.com/mrss/"
>
<channel>
  <title>Comments on: Being a Lawyer-Pastor</title>
  <atom:link href="https://kellytshibaka.com/2015/10/02/being-a-lawyer-pastor/feed/" rel="self" type="application/rss+xml" />
  <link>https://kellytshibaka.com/2015/10/02/being-a-lawyer-pastor/</link>
  <description></description>
  <lastBuildDate>Sat, 12 Mar 2016 00:26:29 +0000</lastBuildDate>
  <sy:updatePeriod>hourly</sy:updatePeriod>
  <sy:updateFrequency>1</sy:updateFrequency>
  <generator>http://wordpress.com/</generator>
  <item>
    <title>By: Simcha</title>
    <link>https://kellytshibaka.com/2015/10/02/being-a-lawyer-pastor/#comment-29591</link>
    <dc:creator><![CDATA[Simcha]]></dc:creator>
    <pubDate>Sat, 03 Oct 2015 02:39:14 +0000</pubDate>
    <guid isPermaLink="false">http://kellytshibaka.com/?p=1558#comment-29591</guid>
    <description><![CDATA[You are amazing. I love that you don't measure yourself with human metrics; I want to be like you when I am more
grown up :))]></description>
    <content:encoded><![CDATA[<p>You are amazing. I love that you don't measure yourself with human metrics; I want to be like you when I am
more grown up</p>
]]></content:encoded>
  </item>
  <item>
    <title>By: Tim Mossholder</title>
    <link>https://kellytshibaka.com/2015/10/02/being-a-lawyer-pastor/#comment-29589</link>
    <dc:creator><![CDATA[Tim Mossholder]]></dc:creator>
    <pubDate>Fri, 02 Oct 2015 19:01:33 +0000</pubDate>
    <guid isPermaLink="false">http://kellytshibaka.com/?p=1558#comment-29589</guid>
    <description><![CDATA[Kelly...so thankful for all your atypical ways. Keep it up! You are modeling important things, not only for a generation of
young women, but for all young leaders. So needed.]]></description>
    <content:encoded><![CDATA[<p>Kelly's so thankful for all your atypical ways. Keep it up! You are modeling important things, not only for a
generation of young women, but for all young leaders. So needed.</p>
]]></content:encoded>
  </item>
</channel>
</rss>
```



```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?><rss version="2.0"
  xmlns:content="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/content/"
  xmlns:dc="http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/"
  xmlns:atom="http://www.w3.org/2005/Atom"
  xmlns:sy="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/syndication/"
  xmlns:georss="http://www.georss.org/georss" xmlns:geo="http://www.w3.org/2003/01/geo/wgs84_pos#" xmlns:media="http://search.yahoo.com/mrss/"
  >
<channel>
  <title>Comments on: Give Others Freedom to Minister</title>
  <atom:link href="https://kellytshibaka.com/2015/10/08/give-others-freedom-to-minister/feed/" rel="self" type="application/rss+xml" />
  <link>https://kellytshibaka.com/2015/10/08/give-others-freedom-to-minister/</link>
  <description></description>
  <lastBuildDate>Sat, 12 Mar 2016 00:26:29 +0000</lastBuildDate>
  <sy:updatePeriod>hourly</sy:updatePeriod>
  <sy:updateFrequency>1</sy:updateFrequency>
  <generator>http://wordpress.com/</generator>
</channel>
</rss>
```

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?><rss version="2.0"
  xmlns:content="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/content/"
  xmlns:dc="http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/"
  xmlns:atom="http://www.w3.org/2005/Atom"
  xmlns:sy="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/syndication/"
  xmlns:georss="http://www.georss.org/georss" xmlns:geo="http://www.w3.org/2003/01/geo/wgs84_pos#" xmlns:media="http://search.yahoo.com/mrss/"
  >
<channel>
  <title>Comments on: My Thoughts on This Unconventional Pastor</title>
  <atom:link href="https://kellytshibaka.com/2015/10/12/my-thoughts-on-this-unconventional-pastor/feed/" rel="self" type="application/rss+xml" />
  <link>https://kellytshibaka.com/2015/10/12/my-thoughts-on-this-unconventional-pastor/</link>
  <description></description>
  <lastBuildDate>Sat, 12 Mar 2016 00:26:29 +0000</lastBuildDate>
  <sy:updatePeriod>hourly</sy:updatePeriod>
  <sy:updateFrequency>1</sy:updateFrequency>
  <generator>http://wordpress.com/</generator>
</channel>
</rss>
```

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?><rss version="2.0"
  xmlns:content="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/content/"
  xmlns:dc="http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/"
  xmlns:atom="http://www.w3.org/2005/Atom"
  xmlns:sy="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/syndication/"
  xmlns:georss="http://www.georss.org/georss" xmlns:geo="http://www.w3.org/2003/01/geo/wgs84_pos#" xmlns:media="http://search.yahoo.com/mrss/"
>
<channel>
  <title>Comments on: Leadership Quotes from Madam Secretary</title>
  <atom:link href="https://kellytshibaka.com/2015/10/14/leadership-quotes-from-secretary-of-state/feed/" rel="self" type="application/rss+xml" />
  <link>https://kellytshibaka.com/2015/10/14/leadership-quotes-from-secretary-of-state/</link>
  <description></description>
  <lastBuildDate>Sat, 12 Mar 2016 00:26:29 +0000</lastBuildDate>
  <sy:updatePeriod>hourly</sy:updatePeriod>
  <sy:updateFrequency>1</sy:updateFrequency>
  <generator>http://wordpress.com/</generator>
  <item>
    <title>By: silkpursessowsears</title>
    <link>https://kellytshibaka.com/2015/10/14/leadership-quotes-from-secretary-of-state/#comment-29698</link>
    <dc:creator><![CDATA[silkpursessowsears]]></dc:creator>
    <pubDate>Thu, 22 Oct 2015 12:54:38 +0000</pubDate>
    <guid isPermaLink="false">http://kellytshibaka.com/?p=1569#comment-29698</guid>
    <description><![CDATA[I love the quote on interests and values. I heard it too while watching the show and thought it was worth reflecting on.
Thanks for adding more light to it on a spiritual level!
I'm not sure I agree with the mediocre men and women quote, although I can see how immediately catchy it might be. When we say to men that there's
plenty of room for mediocre men, we give them the allowance to be mediocre when we need more men to lead their families and communities powerfully. We need more
men to be powerful role models to our young sons and daughters. Why then do we pass on the message that mediocre is ok for them. I believe we should hold them to
the same standard we hold ourselves.... Colossians 3:23 "whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as if working for the Lord and not for human
masters."
This is God's standard and our value as his children and because the interests of having strong families, leaders, communities are clear and the values are
at stake with quotes like these... Perhaps this is where we need to act and make a difference by changing beliefs like these. There is no room for mediocre
anyone. Our world and future depend on the excellence of both men and women. At least that's what I would like MY sons and daughters to grow up believing.]]>
</description>
    <content:encoded><![CDATA[<p>I love the quote on interests and values. I heard it too while watching the show and thought it was worth reflecting
on. Thanks for adding more light to it on a spiritual level!<br />
I'm not sure I agree with the mediocre men and women quote, although I can see how immediately catchy it might be. When we say to men that there's
plenty of room for mediocre men, we give them the allowance to be mediocre when we need more men to lead their families and communities powerfully. We need more
men to be powerful role models to our young sons and daughters. Why then do we pass on the message that mediocre is ok for them. I believe we should hold them to
the same standard we hold ourselves&#8230;. Colossians 3:23 "whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as if working for the Lord and not for human
masters.&#8221; </p>
<p>This is God's standard and our value as his children and because the interests of having strong families, leaders, communities are clear and the values
are at stake with quotes like these&#8230; Perhaps this is where we need to act and make a difference by changing beliefs like these. There is no room for
mediocre anyone. Our world and future depend on the excellence of both men and women. At least that's what I would like MY sons and daughters to grow up
believing.</p>
]]></content:encoded>
    </item>
    <item>
      <title>By: Simcha</title>
      <link>https://kellytshibaka.com/2015/10/14/leadership-quotes-from-secretary-of-state/#comment-29686</link>
      <dc:creator><![CDATA[Simcha]]></dc:creator>
      <pubDate>Fri, 16 Oct 2015 19:49:05 +0000</pubDate>
      <guid isPermaLink="false">http://kellytshibaka.com/?p=1569#comment-29686</guid>
      <description><![CDATA[Love that, especially the second one. I feel the exact same way!]]></description>
      <content:encoded><![CDATA[<p>Love that, especially the second one. I feel the exact same way!</p>
]]></content:encoded>
    </item>
    <item>
      <title>By: Tim Mossholder</title>
      <link>https://kellytshibaka.com/2015/10/14/leadership-quotes-from-secretary-of-state/#comment-29616</link>
      <dc:creator><![CDATA[Tim Mossholder]]></dc:creator>
      <pubDate>Wed, 14 Oct 2015 22:07:58 +0000</pubDate>
      <guid isPermaLink="false">http://kellytshibaka.com/?p=1569#comment-29616</guid>
      <description><![CDATA[Just saw that show and thought those quotes were brilliant as well! One correction. The show is "Madam
Secretary."]]></description>
      <content:encoded><![CDATA[<p>Just saw that show and thought those quotes were brilliant as well! One correction. The show is "Madam
Secretary.&#8221;</p>
]]></content:encoded>
    </item>
  </channel>
</rss>
```

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?><rss version="2.0"
  xmlns:content="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/content/"
  xmlns:dc="http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/"
  xmlns:atom="http://www.w3.org/2005/Atom"
  xmlns:sy="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/syndication/"
  xmlns:georss="http://www.georss.org/georss" xmlns:geo="http://www.w3.org/2003/01/geo/wgs84_pos#" xmlns:media="http://search.yahoo.com/mrss/"
  >
<channel>
  <title>Comments on: Sent to Government: Kelly Tshibaka</title>
  <atom:link href="https://kellytshibaka.com/2015/11/02/sent-to-government-kelly-tshibaka/feed/" rel="self" type="application/rss+xml" />
  <link>https://kellytshibaka.com/2015/11/02/sent-to-government-kelly-tshibaka/</link>
  <description></description>
  <lastBuildDate>Sat, 12 Mar 2016 00:26:29 +0000</lastBuildDate>
  <sy:updatePeriod>hourly</sy:updatePeriod>
  <sy:updateFrequency>1</sy:updateFrequency>
  <generator>http://wordpress.com/</generator>
</channel>
</rss>
```

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?><rss version="2.0"
  xmlns:content="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/content/"
  xmlns:dc="http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/"
  xmlns:atom="http://www.w3.org/2005/Atom"
  xmlns:sy="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/syndication/"
  xmlns:georss="http://www.georss.org/georss" xmlns:geo="http://www.w3.org/2003/01/geo/wgs84_pos#" xmlns:media="http://search.yahoo.com/mrss/"
  >
<channel>
  <title>Comments on: Thoughts on How to Disciple</title>
  <atom:link href="https://kellytshibaka.com/2015/11/12/thoughts-on-how-to-disciple/feed/" rel="self" type="application/rss+xml" />
  <link>https://kellytshibaka.com/2015/11/12/thoughts-on-how-to-disciple/</link>
  <description></description>
  <lastBuildDate>Sat, 12 Mar 2016 00:26:29 +0000</lastBuildDate>
  <sy:updatePeriod>hourly</sy:updatePeriod>
  <sy:updateFrequency>1</sy:updateFrequency>
  <generator>http://wordpress.com/</generator>
</channel>
</rss>
```



05  
Sunday  
Mar 2017

## Impostor Syndrome

Posted by KATHARINE in Uncategorized

Leave a comment

Hi Kelly,

I wanted to ask you if you've ever encountered "impostor syndrome" in your professional life? We were taught about it in grad school – it is a feeling that you are an impostor/fraud in whatever thing you are doing – that sneaky voice in the back of your mind that tells you it was a mistake to let you into grad school, promote you, etc.

I've really been struggling with this lately, honestly for the first time in my career. Every mistake I make, every deadline I miss (and I miss a lot of them, because my group is so dramatically understaffed at the moment), I have this sense that I don't belong, that I'm not good enough to continue this career, etc. Normally I would reject those thoughts out of hand as the enemy's attacks, but lately I find myself in this convoluted thought process where I'm worrying that I'm not doing well because God is trying to get my attention and tell me to move on. The counter thought to this is that I've been very successful, for all that I feel I'm failing. I've had some interpersonal issues with my supervisor, but overall I've received very good performance reviews and I'm on track to be promoted this time, get into advanced training, etc. etc.

I'd appreciate hearing any thoughts you have.

My response:

Hi, Friend! What you're experiencing is *totally* normal. So normal in fact, it was written about thousands of years ago in the book of Nehemiah. Anytime we see an enemy of God's people in the Bible, we know that's a strategy the enemy uses against us today. The things Nehemiah's enemies said could accurately be described as inflicting an impostor syndrome. And I think any thoughts that sound inconsistent with "loving you immensely" and "believing great things about you" can't be from God.

So, this is the enemy. And we fight off the enemy with worship and reflecting on the things God has said that are true. Bible verses, prophetic words, or specific revelation He's given you. Worship and the Word destroy the enemy, if it's really bad, add fasting on top of all that.

But if God is trying to get your attention, He won't be deterred by worship, Bible verses, and fasting! You can simply ask Him to make it clear to you through a Bible verse or confirmation from two or more witnesses. Then just sit back and wait. God doesn't have a hard time getting our attention. And He usually doesn't do it through things that feel demeaning and punishing . . . unless we've been living in disobedience for a very, very long time (see, for example, the entire Old Testament).



Subscribe via:

1 comment

Comments are closed.

### RECENT POSTS

[Impostor Syndrome](#)

[What Do You Want To Be When You Grow Up?](#)

[One of "Those" Days](#)

[What to Tell Kids about Death and Heaven](#)

[How Dad/Husband Can Help in Labor and Post Partum](#)

### ABOUT

[Blog](#)

[Contact](#)

[Favorites](#)

[Kelly Tethaka](#)

[Resources](#)

[Speaking](#)

Search...



26  
Friday  
May 2017

## The Only Woman at the Table

Published on May 19, 2017 at 12:00 PM

Read this content

A major news source invited me to be part of a televised panel of government executives. The other panelists were men — not an uncommon scenario — and most of them brought assistants. These assistants prepared their talking points, carried their bags, and got them bottles of water. And they were all young women. It seemed silly to me to bring an assistant — this was less than an hour long. You don't need help preparing talking points or getting a bottle of water... well, at least I didn't.

When it was time to air, the executives all sat at the table on set. The assistants all sat in the audience. The host noted that since the segment would be aired on radio, too, he would refer to the men by name when asking a question so their voices could be distinguished. He wouldn't need to say my name each time, though, because I was the only woman at the table.

I looked out at the young women in the audience. And my mind started to go there. "How sad. What does this say about our society and the treatment of genders — except for me, all the women in the room are in the audience."

But then I caught myself. "How did I get at the table?" I remembered all the times I was the "young lady in the audience." I was there because a successful person far more senior than me — and usually a man — brought me along as an unnecessary assistant. And in doing so, I learned how to interface with the media, members of Congress, and other senior leaders of the government. I learned how to prepare for interviews and hearings, master talking points, and respond wisely to unexpected questions. Some of the people who brought me along did it to purposefully mentor me. Others didn't. But regardless of their intent, I took the opportunity to learn.

I got to the table because other people brought me along.

And then I looked around — who did I bring along? Nobody. I had thought it was "unnecessary," but it wasn't. I may not have needed someone to carry my bag or get my water. But it was absolutely necessary to give someone the opportunity to learn how to be "at the table." Otherwise, how would they ever get there?

At my next televised interview, I brought along an unnecessary assistant. And she happened to be a woman.



Share this

Loaded



Comments are closed

### Recent posts

Fighting Fraud  
Quick Thoughts on Submission  
Something I Admire about  
My Husband  
Rejected... by a Publisher  
When the Sh-tuff Hits the Fan

### Pages

Blog  
Contact  
Favorites  
Kelly Takahara  
Resources  
Speaking

Search...



08  
Saturday  
Jul. 2017

## Get Back Up Again!

POPEEY IN DISGUISE

LEWISA POWELL

This year, one of the [songs](#) that's having a significant impact on my life is from the movie *Trolls*. I don't normally get huge spiritual epiphanies from animated movies, but hey—if God can talk through Balaam's donkey, he can talk through Poppy the Troll. After all, our natural world is imbued with spiritual truth if we only have *ears to hear* and *eyes to see*.

Poppy has to brave the big, bad, precarious forest to rescue her people. As she ventures through the peril, she sings [this song](#) filled with deep truth and encouragement. These lines, in particular, resonate with my soul:

"I'm not giving up today  
There's nothing getting in my way  
And if you knock knock me over  
I will get back up again!"

"What if it's all a big mistake  
What if it's more than I can take  
No I can't think that way 'cause I know this  
I'm really really gonna be okay!"

And these words sit in the midst of intentional optimism and enthusiasm. This horribly precarious, dangerous challenge she's facing is, in her mind, all part of an exciting, marvelous, fantastic day. "Some super fun surprise around each corner. Just riding on a rainbow, I'm gonna be okay!"

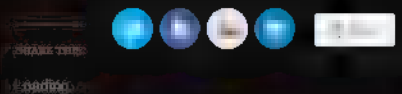
Poppy chooses *joy*. *How?* (By not being afraid)

And she's not afraid because she knows she's going to be okay. No matter what happens, she's going to be okay.

And I'm going to be okay, too. Why? Not because I have no challenges, pain, set backs or suffering. And not because I have every optimistic Troll self-talk with a made-for-movie animated ending. But because I have the one, true, Living God, the God of the Universe, the Great I Am on my side. He's with me. He's for me. And I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me. (Philippians 4:13, Romans 8:31, Matthew 28:20)

He's made me for a purpose. He's written my story. Every day of my life was recorded in His book before a single day had passed. (Psalm 139:16) I don't know how it's going to go, but I know how it ends—after I leave this earth, I spend eternity in His presence. And between now and then, I'm living out my purpose, braving daunting challenges for the sake of others, knowing He is with me.

So no matter what I face, I know that I will get back up again!



Comments are closed

Comments are closed

### Recent posts

[Fighting Fraud](#)  
[Quick Thoughts on Submission](#)  
[Something I Admire about My Husband](#)  
[Rejected...by a Publisher](#)  
[When the Sh-tt Hits the Fan](#)

### Pages

[Blog](#)  
[Contact](#)  
[Favorites](#)  
[Kelly Takahashi](#)  
[Resources](#)  
[Speaking](#)

Search...

13  
Thursday  
Jul 2017

## God Prizes.

Posted by KIRIBAKA IN UNKATEGORIZED

LEAVE A COMMENT

*"God prizes humility, obscurity, and servanthood. A truly great person chooses to deflect attention, not draw it. Can you be that sort of great? I think we all can."*

Dr. Daniel A. Brown

SHARE THIS

Loading...



Comments are closed.

Comments are closed.

### RECENT POSTS

[Fighting Fraud](#)  
[Quick Thoughts on Submission](#)  
[Something I Admire about My Husband](#)  
[Rejected...by a Publisher](#)  
[When the Shift Hits the Fan](#)

### PAGES

[Blog](#)  
[Contact](#)  
[Favorites](#)  
[Kelly Takabaki](#)  
[Resources](#)  
[Speaking](#)

Search...



25  
Tuesday  
Jun 2017

## How to Deal with Bad Leaders

[David's relationship with Saul](#), [Unanswered](#)

[David's power](#)

I recently was reflecting on David's heart and behavior towards Saul. David admired and honored Saul. He was like a father to him. He was, in fact, his Father-In-Law. And he was his BFF's dad.

And yet, Saul betrayed David multiple times. He turned against him. He lied to him. He lied about him. He betrayed him. He turned people against him. He assassinated his reputation. He hunted him. He functionally exiled him. He controlled him. He back-stabbed him. He tried to cut off God's plan for him. He tried to kill him...several times. And he engaged in what must have felt like emotional abuse (there were times Saul changed how he thought, saw things for what they really were, and was kind to David, but then he'd revert right back to the cruel and abusive treatment).

Saul epitomized a dysfunctional leader.

The way David functioned under Saul's authority takes up a LOT of real estate in the Bible. Though David was at times heart broken, devastated, infuriated, confused, or depressed (see Psalms), he filtered his reactions and treatment of Saul through his relationship and regard for the Lord.

David honored Saul's authority, including tolerating Saul's treatment of him, because He recognized God sets leaders in place. (Daniel 2:21, Romans 13:1). In other words, David's respect for/honor of/and submission to God enabled him to do the same to Saul.

Saul honors our submission to leaders even when they're dysfunctional.

This is a hard truth. Now, before you might be tempted to say "even Hitler?" (we often pull the Hitler card as an extreme example for argument's sake), can we please acknowledge that there's a spectrum of leaders? A spectrum from ideal (Jesus) to evil (Satan) with a whole range of healthy/functional and unhealthy/dysfunctional in between? At this point, I'm not addressing a believer's response to leaders in the Hitler/Satan "evil" part of the spectrum. But I am addressing those leaders in the "dysfunctional to intolerable" part of the spectrum. Those leaders we just can't believe God wants us to respect, honor, and submit to.

Like slave owners. But God says "Slaves, obey your earthly masters with respect and fear, and with sincerity of heart, just as you would obey Christ." (Ephesians 6:5). This verse doesn't condone slavery; it promotes obedience. It might be read like, "Even if you're a slave, you honor God when you obey your master—Ike Joseph obeyed Potiphar." I also see how Jesus demonstrated respect, honor, and submission to Calaphas, the High Priest, and Pilate, Roman prefect of Judea, even unto His death. As a prisoner/slave, He obeyed them just as he would obey God. (After all, it was God who was behind them, wasn't it? (John 19:11))

I see the same principle of honor/respect/submission to authorities in verses about marriage. "Wives, submit yourselves to your own husbands as you do to the Lord." (Ephesians 5:22) Again, the way she submits to him reflects the way she submits to the Lord. And submission does not mean to be a doormat or be physically abused, but it does mean respecting and honoring (not merely tolerating) his leadership...even when it's dysfunctional. Take, for example, "Wives, in the same way submit yourselves to your own husbands so that, if any of them do not believe the word, they may be won over without words by the behavior of their wives" (1 Peter 3:1) Here God tells Christian women to stay married to unchristian husbands. And when we read these two sections together, the Bible is saying that wives honor God by submitting to their husbands *even when they're not Christians* (which arguably makes them "dysfunctional" as the spiritual head of a Christian wife).

I remember reading a book on submission early in my marriage and was particularly struck by this principle: even if the wife doesn't trust her husband, even if the husband is an unbeliever, and even if he's wrong about a particular decision, the wife demonstrates her trust in God when she honors, respects, and submits to her husband. Her respect of and deference to him not only directly reflects her respect of and deference to Jesus but also makes room for Jesus to move through and lead her husband. After all, if we believe Christ appoints authorities, then we believe He has a vested interest in leading them.

I believe that when we honor, respect, and submit to (even dysfunctional) leaders, it is an act of faith in God that opens the doors for miracles to happen. (Matthew 13:58) I'm not saying be co-dependent, sycophantic, voice-less, or tolerant of abuse. But I am saying this might look like not getting angry or offended about decisions they make, speaking about them with love and honor, and consistently making choices you know would make them happy even if you disagree with them. For example, I honor my leader when I share with her why I disagree with a decision and offer her an alternative. But if she maintains the decision, I honor her by implementing it with a respectful attitude and without maligning her or the decision to others.

When you're serving under a dysfunctional leader, it may be that the Lord is challenging you to grow in your faith and trust in Him. He may be the Lord is looking to add something to you. I think it might just be true when the Bible says, "the testing of your faith produces perseverance. Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything." Through this challenge, for example, you may have the opportunity to learn, through experience, what David learned. His character was formed in the caves. And your character will be formed through this.

If you quit or end your relationship with bad leaders before you are at a place of peace and reconciliation where you can "go out with joy and be led forth with peace," then you'll miss the benefits that come from honoring/respecting/submitting to them, you'll miss an incredible opportunity to open the door/make a way for God to move into their lives and change them, and you'll miss out on deepening your honor and submission to God.

Getting to where David was with Saul, Joseph was with Potiphar, or Jesus was with Calaphas takes a new perspective. It also takes some deep healing from particularly painful experiences with dysfunctional leaders in the past. It takes a lot of courage and perseverance. But I read somewhere that perseverance produces character and character produces hope. (Rom. 5:3-4) Learning to honor dysfunctional leaders means excavating new levels of character and hope.

From my experience, it's deeply painful, but it brings a new depth of contentment, peace, and joy to any assignment. It has deepened my faith and my ability to weather all kinds of dysfunctional leaders (every leader has areas, seasons, or episodes of dysfunction, including me). But in choosing to persevere through this process, you will become rooted more deeply in trust of the Lord rather than trust of leaders. And you will open the door for the Lord to come in and move in the leaders' lives in an unprecedented and miraculous way.

[Subscribe](#)

Loading...

[Subscribe](#)

Comments are closed.

#### RECENT POSTS

[Fighting Fraud](#)  
[Quick Thoughts on Submission](#)  
[Something I Admire about My Husband](#)  
[Rejected...by a Publisher](#)  
[When the SB-40 flips the Epp](#)

#### PAGES

[Blog](#)  
[Contact](#)  
[Favorites](#)  
[Kelly Tshibako](#)  
[Resources](#)  
[Speaking](#)

#### Search



03
  
Thursday
  
Aug 2017

## What's Your Calling? The Unimaginable

Posted by [Katharine in Unrecorded](#)

1 Comment

I gave this talk at the 2017 Pureheart Convention. You can [watch it here](#).

I believe there are harvest fields of people Jesus loves, but they'll never walk through the doors of our churches.

I also believe Jesus has few followers who are willing to reach them. The harvest is plentiful, but there are few laborers who say, "Send me!"

When I grew up, I didn't dream of being a government employee. I wanted to be a medical missionary.

But God had other plans. I didn't go to med school. I went to law school. I didn't go to the mission field. I went to Washington DC. And after my husband and I planted a church, I didn't go on staff. I continued in my career.

These weren't my dreams. In fact, for many years I prayed that God would release me from my career. But God continued to say that I put me there for a reason. And when God says, whom shall I send, I always want to say, "Send me!"

In Genesis, Joseph had some dreams, too. But they weren't to be a slave or a king! And yet, God called him to those things. Sometimes the path to our dreams looks absolutely Unimaginable.

It gives a whole different meaning to God doing *exceedingly abundantly beyond* all we ask or imagine. I've been commissioned to something far different from anything I imagined.

I've learned that sometimes the sick aren't just in the sanctuaries. Like the unbeliever who came into my office crying because a loved one was passing away that day. But we prayed, and her loved one made a miraculous recovery!

I've learned that people in the pinnacles of power also need the presence of God. Like the woman I prayed for one day in the elevator. A few weeks later she asked me what God thought about a difficult decision she'd made. I had the privilege of sharing His heart with her, setting her free from shame and fear.

I've also learned that hardened skeptics can be heartfelt seekers. Like the man of another religion who peppered me with questions about my faith for months, eventually sharing that he'd been interested in Christianity for years but never could find someone who would answer his questions without being defensive. Together we started a Bible study at work for non-believers.

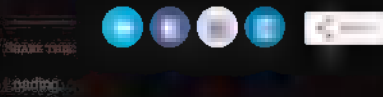
I've learned that even counselors to kings need counsel from the King of Kings. Like the day that a senior agency official stopped me in the hall. "Are you a chaplain?" he asked. "No, but I'm a pastor," I said. He asked me for my counsel -- he was about to make a decision that could have significant implications for our country. I didn't know what he should do, but I told him I could help him hear from God. He was shocked—that was possible? Absolutely! I coached him through how to pray and hear God. We prayed, compared our notes, and were amazed at how consistent they were! That prayer time gave him the guidance he needed to move forward.

I've also learned God will go to unbelievable lengths to share His love. At one point I was under consideration for a presidential appointee position in a prominent federal agency. I interviewed with several White House and senior government officials. I was really excited about the position. When I was on my way to a final interview, I felt God say, "Kelly, would you be okay not getting this job if it means I get to reach these people through you?" I thought about trying to convince them that He'd probably reach them more effectively if He GAVE me the job! But instead I said, "Yes, Lord. Send Me."

While I ultimately wasn't selected for that position, I know those officials read hundreds of pages of my blog recounting spiritual truths and testimonies of God's faithfulness and love. That might have been why I didn't get the job... But that also might have been the only time they heard how much God loves them.

I never could've imagined becoming a senior leader in the most powerful government in the world. But none of these stories could've happened if I just waited for these people to come to my church.

I'm commissioned to the Unimaginable. And so are you. Let's embrace assignments and circumstances beyond what we could have asked or imagined. Let's be harvest laborers ready for the harvest. And when God says, whom shall I send, let's be the ones to say, "Send me!"



Comments are closed.

1 Comment

#### Recent Posts

[Fighting Fraud](#)  
[Quick Thoughts on Submission](#)  
[Something I Admire about My Husband](#)  
[Rejected...by a Publisher](#)  
[When the Sh-!t! Hits the Fan](#)

#### Pages

[Blog](#)  
[Contact](#)  
[Favorites](#)  
[Kelly Talbot's](#)  
[Resources](#)  
[Speaking](#)

Search...



29  
Saturday  
Jul. 2017

## A Secret to Success

Posted by [Kriszaka](#) in [Law](#) [Unrecorded](#)

[Leave a comment](#)

In law school it was hard to get As. In fact the law school "prided" itself on giving Bs. About halfway through law school, I asked the top student I'm in the class above me, "What's the secret to getting As?" I was stunned by what he said.

Get in the professor's head. Regurgitate what the professor says and thinks on your test. Don't prepare for the test by studying the textbook. Prepare by reading the last 5 law review articles the professor wrote. Use those principles and phrases in your test answers and you'll get an A. The professors aren't interested in knowing if you can think for yourself. They're interested in knowing whether they've influenced you.

I was skeptical, but I had nothing to lose.

So when finals came around, I didn't turn to my notes or textbooks. I read a lot of law review articles. Of all you, I didn't have a lot of confidence doing it, but again, I had nothing to lose.

I remember one test in particular given by one of the best constitutional scholars in the country. It was an open book test with tiny one question, and I had 8 hours to do it. I mean how hard could that be? But when I got the test, I couldn't even understand what he was asking! How can you ace a test when you don't even understand the question?

After I overcame my panic attack, I started writing+paraphrasing the theories and concepts of the professor's law review articles in answers that felt completely unrelated to the question asked. But it worked! I landed one of the highest grades not only in my class, but also on my transcript.

And I learned a valuable lesson that has served me well ever since. My success often depends on the extent I can understand how my supervisor/customer/team member thinks, restate their thoughts in my own words, and be influenced by them.

Share this:



Loading...

[Previous](#)

[Next](#)

Comments are closed.

### Recent posts

[Fighting Fraud](#)  
[Quick Thoughts on Submission](#)  
[Something I Admire about My Husband](#)  
[Rejected...by a Publisher](#)  
[When the Sh-tuff Hits the Fan](#)

### Pages

[Blog](#)  
[Contact](#)  
[Favorites](#)  
[Kelly Takabako](#)  
[Resources](#)  
[Speaking](#)

Search...





24  
Thursday  
Aug 2017

## Something I Admire about My Husband

Posted by Keshawn in Uncategorized

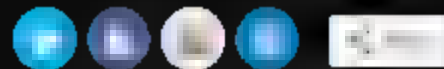
Leave a comment

"We were talking about someone who retired at our age after successfully starting a business. He has so much money, he can do whatever he wants with his life."

"He doesn't have that kind of money, but he has faith."

"Know what I admire about you?" I said. "You do whatever God wants you to do with your life."

Share this:



Loading...

Comments are closed.

Comments

### RECENT POSTS

[Fighting Cancer](#)  
[Fighting Fraud](#)  
[Quick Thoughts on Submission](#)  
[Something I Admire about My Husband](#)  
[Rejected...by a Publisher](#)

### Pages

[Blog](#)  
[Contact](#)  
[Favorites](#)  
[Kelly Talibaké](#)  
[Resources](#)  
[Speaking](#)

Search...

Go

12  
Saturday  
Aug 2017

## What Kind of Songs Do You Like? Poppy Songs

POSTED BY KATHARINE IN [Uncategorized](#)

1 Comment

2017-04-18 16:47:55

Filed in Uncategorized

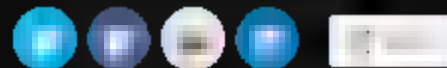
The other night our family was going around the table at dinner. What are your favorite type of songs? Seemed like we heard it all. Rap songs, Sinatra songs, Skillet songs, Country songs, Kidz Bop songs, Pop songs, etc. And then it was 3-year-old

"Hmmm. I know I like Poppy songs!" she exclaimed. "They're AWESOME!"

"Oh, you mean Pop music?"

She nodded enthusiastically. "Real Poppy in there. She sings the BEST songs."

Share this:



Like this:

Like Loading...

Like Loading...

Comments are closed.

### RECENT POSTS

[Fighting Cancer](#)

[Fighting Fraud](#)

[Quick Thoughts on Submissio](#)

[Something I Admire about My Husband](#)

[Rejected...by a Publisher](#)

### PAGES

[Blog](#)

[Contact](#)

[Favorites](#)

[Kelly Tahibaka](#)

[Resources](#)

[Speaking](#)

Search...

GO



28  
Monday  
Aug 2017

## Quick Thoughts on Submission

Posted by [Kriszaka](#) in [Discipleship](#)

[Leave a comment](#)

I'm re-reading [The Problem with the Problem with Women in Ministry Leadership](#). I've been particularly intrigued by the exploration of submission and husbands'/mens' authority over wives/women (spoiler alert: the Bible doesn't talk about women's submission to men, but wives' submission to husbands).

Here's something that resonated with me: the biblical use and understanding of submission is best understood as "come under" or "fit in with." We (men and women) experience the most blessing and trade natural authority for spiritual authority when we "come under" and "fit in with" a range of authorities in our life. It's our submission to appropriate heads-of- (church, state, work, school, etc.) that releases us into the fullest treasure of Kingdom authority for our ministry.

In its essence, submission literally means *to place others above ourselves*. But in order to do that, we have to place ourselves under them. It's a posture of honor and respect, not subservience and passivity.

It seems that submission and humility are quite similar. And I intuitively recognize that the best, most effective leaders are humble... and therefore submitted...to the authorities over them. So it's easy to understand why those with spiritual authority are humble and honor the authorities over them — spiritually, governmentally, maritaly, etc. Because that's how Jesus was.



Share this:

Loading...

Andrew said:

Mark said:

Comments are closed.

### Recent posts

[I Believe Women Can Be Pastors... But I Didn't Always! Here's Why I Changed My Mind](#)  
[Fighting Cancer](#)  
[Fighting Fraud](#)  
[Quick Thoughts on Submission](#)  
[Something I Admire about My Husband](#)

### Pages

[Blog](#)  
[Contact](#)  
[Favorites](#)  
[Kelly Takaki](#)  
[Resources](#)  
[Speaking](#)

Search...

Go

09  
Saturday  
Sep 2017

## Fighting Fraud

Posted by [KISHIBAKA IN UNKATEGORIZED](#)

Leave a comment



In [podcast](#) I did this week on how our office uses data analytics to fight fraud. Starts around minute 4.

How does law enforcement use data to prevent fraud? Kelly Tshibaka, Chief Data Officer of the U.S. Postal Service Office of Inspector General, and Caryl Brzymialkiewicz, Assistant Inspector General & Chief Data Officer at U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Office of Inspector General, speak with CKOTalk about how different agencies at the Office of Inspector General use data analytics.



Share this

Loading

Comments are closed.

Comments are closed.

### RECENT POSTS

[I Believe Women Can Be Pastors - But I Didn't Always! Here's Why I Changed My Mind](#)  
[Fighting Cancer](#)  
[Fighting Fraud](#)  
[Quick Thoughts on Submission](#)  
[Something I Admire about My Husband](#)

### PAGES

[Blog](#)  
[Contact](#)  
[Favorites](#)  
[Kelly Tshibaka](#)  
[Resources](#)  
[Speaking](#)

Search

Go

# I Believe Women Can Be Pastors...But I Didn't Always! Here's Why I Changed My Mind

Presented by [Katharine L. Sawyer](#) in [Theology](#)

16 minutes | 1,000 views



As a woman who is an ordained minister and senior pastor of a local church, I often surprise people to learn I once was a zealous apologist against women in ministry leadership. I even went so far as to put "offerings" (written notes) in one offering plate at church with questions like, "How do you justify having women ministers in this church?" and I'd add Bible verses like 1 Timothy 2:11-12.

On this journey from anti-women-in-ministry apologist to ordained senior pastor involved significant soul searching and spiritual reformation for me. I wasn't easily convinced.

As I grew in scriptural understanding, I learned the importance of context and interpretation. That's not a cop-out for allowing past-and-choose-later (the idea that I can take the parts of scripture I like and discard the parts I don't). Rather, an intellectually honest examination of scripture doesn't pull verses out in isolation and build a theology out of them, but reads them in the context of the chapter, the book, and the totality of the whole story (all of the Bible). After all, scripture is consistent because God doesn't contradict himself.

In the thoughts below, my intent is to share what changed my mind about the 1 Timothy women (and women) in ministry leadership, with the hope that it helps inform or clarify others' thoughts as well.

## How I Understood 1 Timothy 2:11-12

A woman must quietly receive instruction like unto subordination. But I do not allow a woman to teach or exercise authority over a man, but to remain quiet.

Women are not completely prohibited from speaking in church

The words for "quietly" and "remain quiet" (or "keep silent" in other translations) in *hesychia*, the word in Acts 18:19 and Acts 21:14, usually translated "held their peace" or "ceased objections." It can't mean "be completely quiet" because right after this word is used, the people continue talking, just not by further challenging or arguing.

The word also is used in 1 Thess. 4:13, 2 Thess. 3:12, and 1 Tim. 2:8 to describe the "quiet" but believers are to wait. Unless we choose to read this as a requirement for monastic silence in our daily living, we can't honestly interpret it as "no talking" for women in 1 Tim. 2:11. Instead, its use here is consistent with the understanding that "quietly" and "remain quiet" mean holding their peace and ceasing objections, arguing, and challenging those providing instruction (in this case, Timothy).

The word that means "not talking" in Greek is *laos*. It's used in Luke 9:36, Acts 13:12, and 1 Cor. 14:20, 28, 32, 34, 35. Paul clearly meant the women weren't to speak in church at all. He wouldn't expect silence.

Paul also talks about women who are prophets—those who speak the word, heart, and encouragement of God to others. In fact, in 1 Corinthians 11, he gives women instruction about praying and prophesying in church services. In addition, when he speaks of spiritual gifts like prophet, pastor, evangelist, apostle, exhorter, hegemon, interpretation of tongues, leader, and teacher, he doesn't limit them to men only (1 Corinthians 4, Romans 12). He also instructs all believers to teach and admonish one another with psalms, hymns, and songs. (Colossians 3:16) All of these verses indicate that Paul believed women could speak in church.

It therefore seems in 1 Timothy 2 that Paul isn't prohibiting women from speaking in church, but from speaking in ways that challenge or object to the appointed leader of the church (in this case, Timothy).

Ways women can and can't teach or exercise authority over men

The word for "authority" used here is *exousia*. In English it's translated as "exercise authority," but our modern English language translation misses the connotation of the word in Greek. This is the only time *exousia* occurs in the Bible. So to understand its meaning at the time, we must refer to external sources.

People on both sides of the women-in-ministry interpretations regard L.E. White's research on the meaning of the word. White found that *exousia*, and its related noun *exousios*, consistently means "to indulge violence," "to murder," "to dominate," "to put one's way," "slayer," or the murderer or perpetrator of a violent crime or act of war. In short, White concluded Paul was saying that women in Timothy's congregation were not to teach or indulge violence. He bases this conclusion upon a study of every known use of the word *exousia* in Greek literature for 400 years surrounding the writing of the New Testament.

The grammar Paul uses here sheds further light on the meaning of this verse. In Greek, Paul uses the indicative verb for "suffer," and infinitives for "teach" and "exercise authority." This means "teach" and "exercise authority" act like nouns that, when taken together, describe each other and, by extension, a larger picture of what's happening. In other words, 1 Tim. 2:12 could be paraphrased as, "I don't permit women to teach in such a manner as to misuse authority in a dominating way over men." When written this way, it's easier to understand how *exousia* explains the way in which Paul is not allowing the women to teach. In other words, Paul isn't prohibiting women from ever teaching men, but from teaching men in a dominating, causing, selfish, or power-hungry way.

Robert A. Lindsell's that *exousia* traditionally was translated as "usurping" or "misusing authority," and only recently has been translated with a neutral connotation of "exercise authority." Translating it in a neutral way makes it easy to confuse with the words for "authority" and "exercise authority" (separate and unrelated) that are frequently used in other parts of the New Testament, including in Paul's letters when referring to the use of authority in the church. (See 1 Cor 6:12, 7:4, 1 Cor 6:12, 7:4, 9:4-6, 9:12, 12:18, 2 Cor 2:8, 10:8, 12:10, Col. 1:13, 2 Thess 3:12, Rom 8:15, 8:23) These words have neutral connotations, both in Greek and in English, and are used in ways that mean "military rank above others," "leader," "in charge," "competent," and "responsible for." It's significant that Paul did not use a common, neutral, catch-all term for "exercise authority" when he spoke of the women in Timothy's church. Instead, he used an uncommon and negative term for "authority."

Once we realize that Paul is speaking against women presuming to take charge by means of self-appointed authority, the text reads quite differently. He is telling Timothy to beware of women who, after being corrected, rise up over the one who corrected them in a challenging and confrontational manner. Such women, who "usurp authority," are unsuitable for spiritual leadership. They manifest the opposite of what ought to be true of godly leaders—selfless surrender, sacrifice, and submission. (Rom. 12:10, Phil. 2:2-11)

So Paul isn't prohibiting women from teaching or exercising authority over men, but from teaching men by usurping authority or being domineering.

In the context of the letter to Timothy

Context, context, context! What was going on in the church at Ephesus that caused Paul to look for needed to correct Timothy and his women teach men by usurping authority or being domineering?

With little formal preparation, Timothy was appointed lead pastor of the sizable congregation Paul developed in Ephesus. Timothy was under personal attack, probably based on his age and inexperience, and because he was correcting false teachers and leaders who had a foothold in the church. (1 Tim. 1:3-4, 4:12, 5:1) Paul's letter to Timothy was to encourage him and provide practical instruction to deal with people in Ephesus who were challenging his rightful spiritual leadership in the fledgling church, functioning as false teachers who were spreading heresy. (1 Tim. 1:3-7) Some of them were men (see 1 Tim. 2:8) and some were women (see 1 Tim. 2:11).

1 Tim. 2:11 addresses the women, and it mirrors the command Paul gives for men in verse 8: "I want men...to pray...without wrath or discussion" (emphasis added). 1 Tim. 2:11 also is part of Paul's broader focus on putting an end to disruption and discord within Timothy's church.

Women in Ephesus likely were in a culture that celebrated women's dominance over men. After all, it was situated in the shadow of the temple of the goddess Artemis, and pagan worship of Artemis, including sexual relations with the pagan priestesses, was normative. Ephesus was one of the richest and most idolatrous cities in the Roman Empire. Understanding Paul's command as not allowing women to dominate men makes sense in the context of the Ephesian church culture.

I also learned that one of the *myths and endless genealogies* (1 Tim. 1:4) promoted in gnostic (heretical) teachings was that Eve was created before Adam, or even created Adam herself! (See Apocryphon of John, Hypostasis of the Archons, Gospel of Philip, Apocrypha of Adam). These teachings may have been used to support the false idea that she (woman) was superior to him (man). Understanding this context helped bring me clarity about verses 12 and 14, where Paul introduces comments about Adam and Eve's relationship. In contrast to the gnostic teachings, Paul gives a short and clear report of the creation story.

Re-reading the Adam/Eve narrative in this way loses this very point of the story, and Paul addresses it here. A disregard for authority is exactly what caused Eve to take the fruit. Before Eve had been formed from Adam's rib, God gave Adam instruction not to eat of "the tree of the knowledge of good and evil." (Gen. 2:17) Adam later told Eve what God said. But Eve "felt into transgression" when she disregarded what Adam said because she didn't hear it for herself. Instead, she regarded her first-hand reasoning above second-hand teaching, and ate the fruit.

Leaders who act like Eve did—who are a law unto themselves, who regard their own perspective above that of their masters and teachers—are dangerous. In effect, Paul is telling Timothy to disqualify for ministry leadership people who cannot govern their lives by what they are taught by others. When a woman is corrected by a leader's teaching, Paul wants Timothy to watch if she will accept it, or refuse it. Does she put her thoughts and conclusions first, and others' teaching second? If so, prohibit her from teaching or usurping authority!

Be God's Be Consistent with the Bible

I've come to understand the overarching story of the Bible as *unless created (with God and with each other), oneness destroyed* (by sin), and *oneness restored* (through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ). So my starting point in thinking about particular verses is that believers are in the oneness restored part of the story—the part where God has gotten rid of divisions between people that served to subordinate one to another. "There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free man, there is neither male nor female; for [we] are all one in Christ Jesus." (Gal. 3:28) Reading 1 Tim. 2:11-12 as promoting oneness destroyed through the continued subordination of women to men in the body of Christ is fundamentally inconsistent with the story of the Bible.

On top of that, the Bible indicates Priscilla instructed Apollos and co-pastored a church with her husband, Lydia healed and oversaw the church at Philippi (mentioned it perhaps?), Phoebe served as a deacon, Nympha and "the chosen lady" led churches, and Junia was an apostle (more on this below). These are positions of authority, as are the women who served as prophets among the churches and preached the gospel after they were scattered during Saul's persecution. After all, Ephesians 4 tells us the prophets and evangelists are for the "equipping of the saints for the doing of the work." (Romans 16:3-7, Acts 8:1-4, Acts 16:24-26, Acts 21:8-9)

In the gospels, Jesus never suggests that women's roles were to be secondary or smaller in the community of faith, even when he could. Instead, He selected women (the adulteress nearly stoned by the lawmen), converted them and sent them out as evangelists (Samaritan women at the well), and validated women as students (disciples) of His (Mary who chose to sit at his feet and learn), even though Jewish law prohibited this ("Better to burn the Tenth than teach it to a woman"). (Lk. 3:19) After Jesus' resurrection, He chose to reveal Himself first to His female disciples, entrusting them with the Gospel message. He sent them to the 11 remaining Disciples to tell them what they saw. They were sent ones (apostles) to tell the Good News (evangelists). An NT Wright points out, they were *the* apostles to the Apostles.

Be God's Be Consistent with the Other Things Written in 1 Timothy

Understanding 1 Tim. 2:12 shapes how we understand the other statements Paul makes in 1 Timothy. It's also clear to assume that 1 Timothy 2:12 says women can never teach nor have authority over men, and 2) that prohibition applies to all churches for all time. When intellectually honest interpretations of scripture would apply the same principles consistently to Paul's other commands in 1 Timothy 2 (we can't say some of these statements applied only in the cultural context, but others applied to all churches for all time). With that said, here's how the different instructions could be interpreted consistently.

Verse	Interpretation Consistent with "Women can't teach or have authority over men" (Complementarian)	Interpretation Consistent with "Women can't teach in a way that's domineering or usurps authority" (Egalitarian)
1 Tim. 2:8 <i>And the men everywhere, as they lift up holy hands without anger or disputing,</i>	Men have to pray with their hands raised (but women don't).	A directive helpful for the church in Ephesus. The principle to apply to today's churches: We want praying male leaders serving in church, lifting their hands to God and without imposing their will in anger.
1 Tim. 2:9-10 <i>Also the women, as they adorn themselves, let them adorn themselves with decency and propriety, adorning themselves, not with elaborate hairstyles or gold or pearls or expensive clothes, but with good deeds, appropriate for women who profess to worship God.</i>	Women can't wear jewelry, expensive dresswear, or style their hair.	A directive helpful for the church in Ephesus. The principle to apply to today's churches: Women's claim to godliness is not a fashion statement, but demonstrated by good works that's neither disguised behind nor disqualifying to others.

1 Timothy 2:15 <i>But women will be saved through childbearing if they continue in faith, love and holiness with propriety.</i>	1) Women can't be saved unless they birth children, or 2) the curse of despair and pain in childbirth is not God's final word to women, but His plan for their salvation and hope is for the next life (where still living in oneness destroyed). In the meantime, women have to suffer through childbirth and He will be with them in that suffering (and, it would be most consistent to say women can't take pain medicine, but experience the fullness of the childbirth curse because we're not yet fully oneness restored—the full weight of the curse is still in effect).	1) An instruction fitting for an Ephesian culture in which heretics promoted asceticism (unnatural) as signs of faith in Christ. The one extreme opposed the Artemis-worshipping culture the other endorsed "freedom" within the culture. Paul rebukes both extremes with, "Women of true faith are free to have sex within the sanctity of marriage." 2) the curse of despair and pain in childbirth is not God's final word to women, but instead His plan is for salvation and hope now (because we're living, at least in part, in oneness restored). So women find salvation even going through childbirth as men will be saved as passing through fire (1 Cor. 3:15)and taking pain medicine is consistent with this interpretation—there is some relief from the curse for those who believe).
--	--	--

## Other Insight from History

This frustrated me—the devastation and restoration of the Catacombs of Santa Priscilla in Rome depicts thousands of women performing priestly functions, including leading the Eucharist (communion) and leading mass with men present. This is archaeological evidence from the early church that women served in ministry leadership roles.

Another thing that bothered me is the re-writing of Junia's name. (Romans 16:7) Some modern Bibles translate the name Junia as Junias, making it a male version of the name. As a man's name, Romans 16:7 can be read considerably with a women-can't-be-leaders interpretation. However, most New Testament scholars and the majority of Greek New Testament manuscripts record the name as Junia, a female name. Ancient Greek Orthodox paintings also depict her as a female leader. Junia was widely changed to "Junias" when the Greek New Testament was translated into Latin, but there is no evidence of the name "Junias" in any other language pre-dating or contemporaneous to New Testament times. It would be as if you re-wrote "Cynthia" to be "Cynophiles." The weight of the evidence indicates Junia was a woman, and she was an apostle.

## Closing Thoughts

Interpretation of 1 Timothy 2:11-12 leads down two general paths. If you translate the words one way, you get a highly restrictive understanding of what women can do. If you translate the words in another way, you only get ministry leadership restrictions like be teachable, operate under legitimate (not self-appointed) authority, and don't usurp the authority of the rightful leader.

I believe the latter translation and interpretation is more consistent with other passages in scripture and with the overall story of the redemptive work Christ working in oneness restored. From my perspective, the phrase in 1 Timothy 2 so often used to deny women positions of spiritual authority was simply intended to address one type of illegitimate and ill-gotten authority: authority that has been wrested from the hands of rightful leaders. So I choose to read 1 Timothy 2:11-12 in light of oneness restored rather than oneness destroyed.

Many thanks to Daniel A. Brown and Gail Wallace for their writings on this subject. For more information on this topic and discussion of other women in ministry verses, I recommend [The Problem with the Problem with Women in Ministry Leadership](#).

Facebook | Twitter | YouTube | Instagram | Email

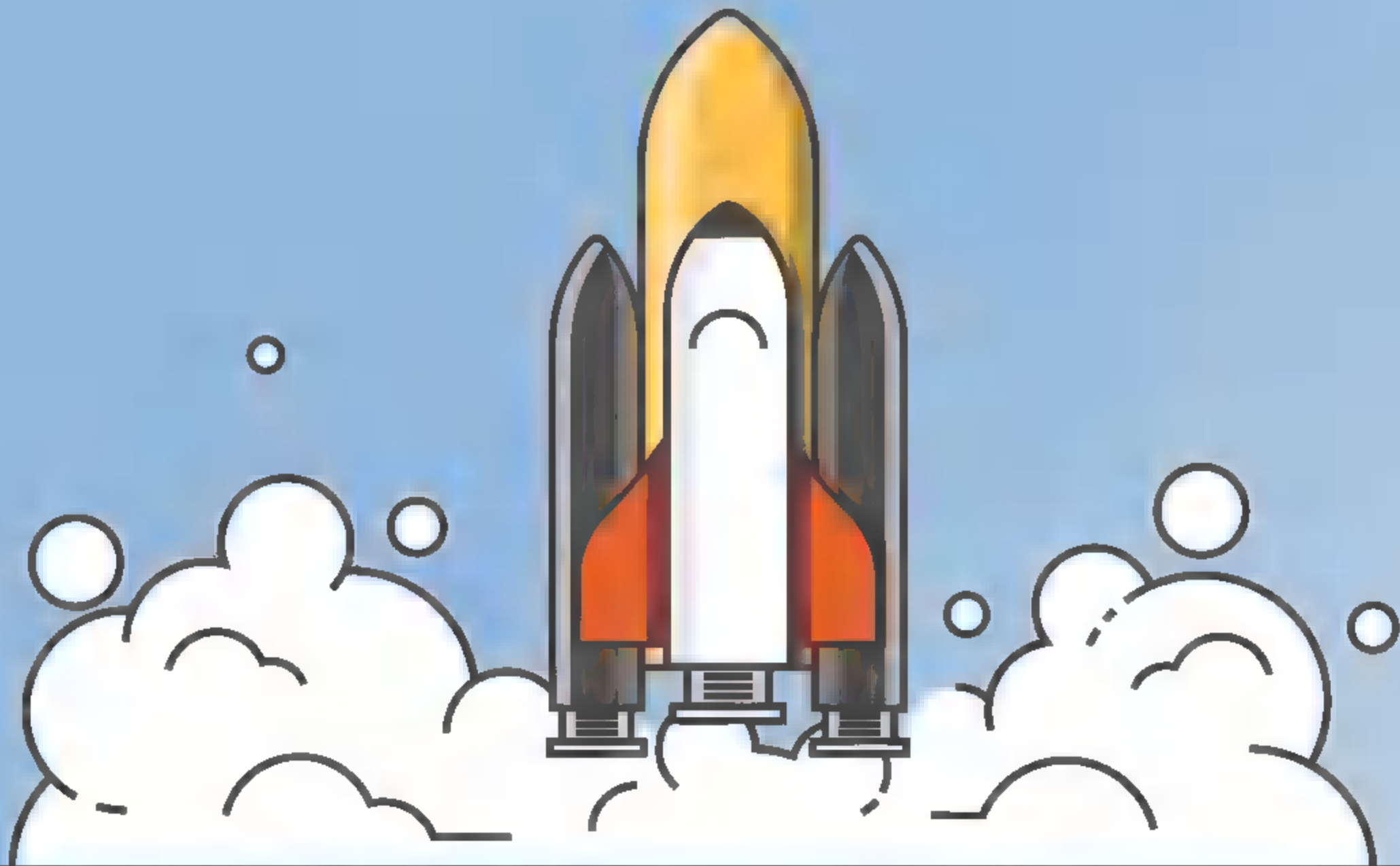
©2017 Katharine Sawyer

1000 views

Comments: 10 replies

RECENT POSTS	PAGES
What It's Like Being a "Data Hero"	Blog
Why Women Can Be Pastors (Part 1) Part 1: Answering "Why?"	Blog
Changed My Mind	Frontier
Praying Closer	Andy Wallace
Praying Closer	Donna Mae
Quick Thoughts on Nonduality	Journaling

©2017 Katharine Sawyer



## **Sorry, we're doing some work on the site**

Thank you for being patient. We are doing some work on the site and will be back shortly.



**Sorry, we're doing some work on the site**

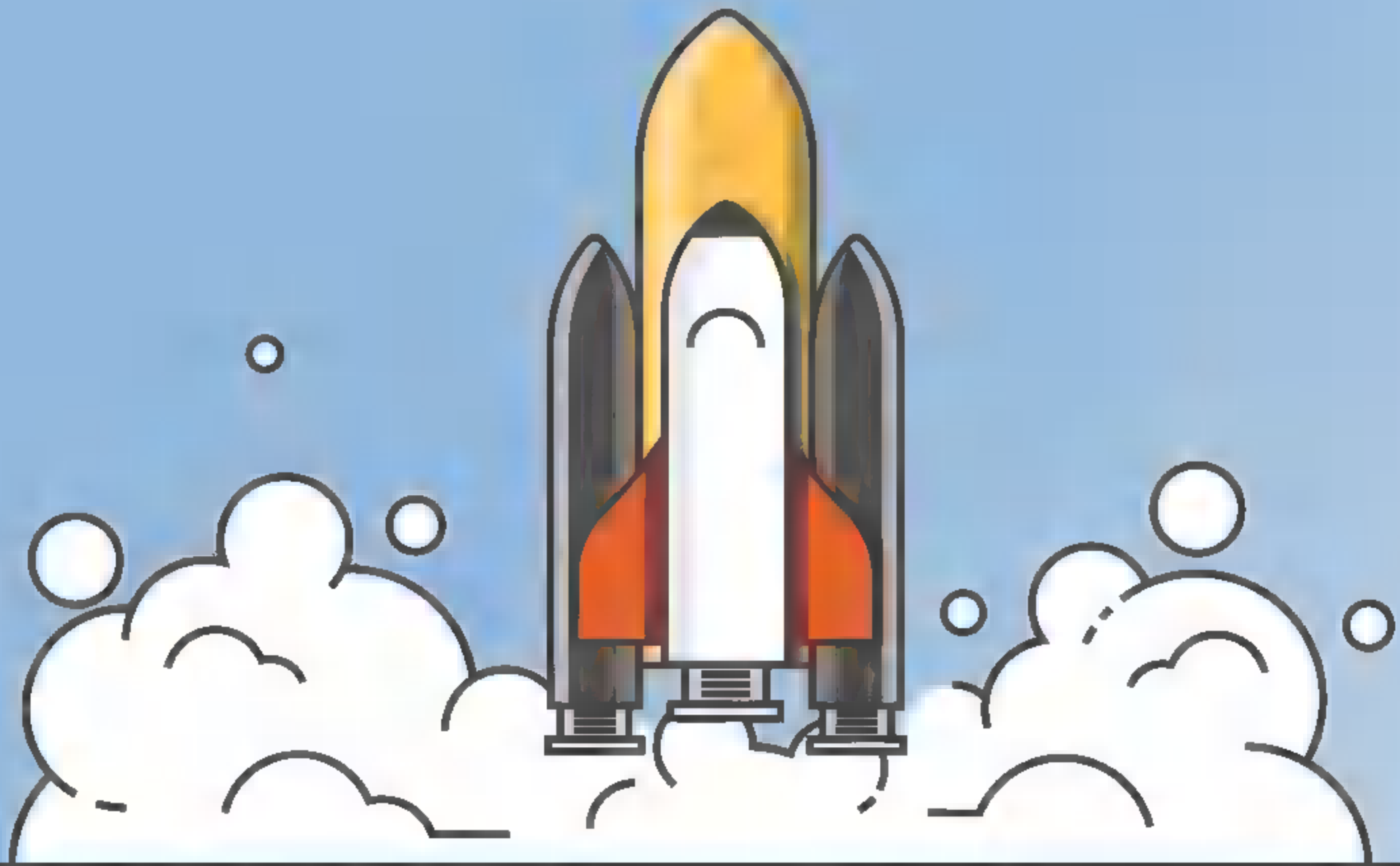
Thank you for being patient. We are doing some work on the site and will be back shortly.



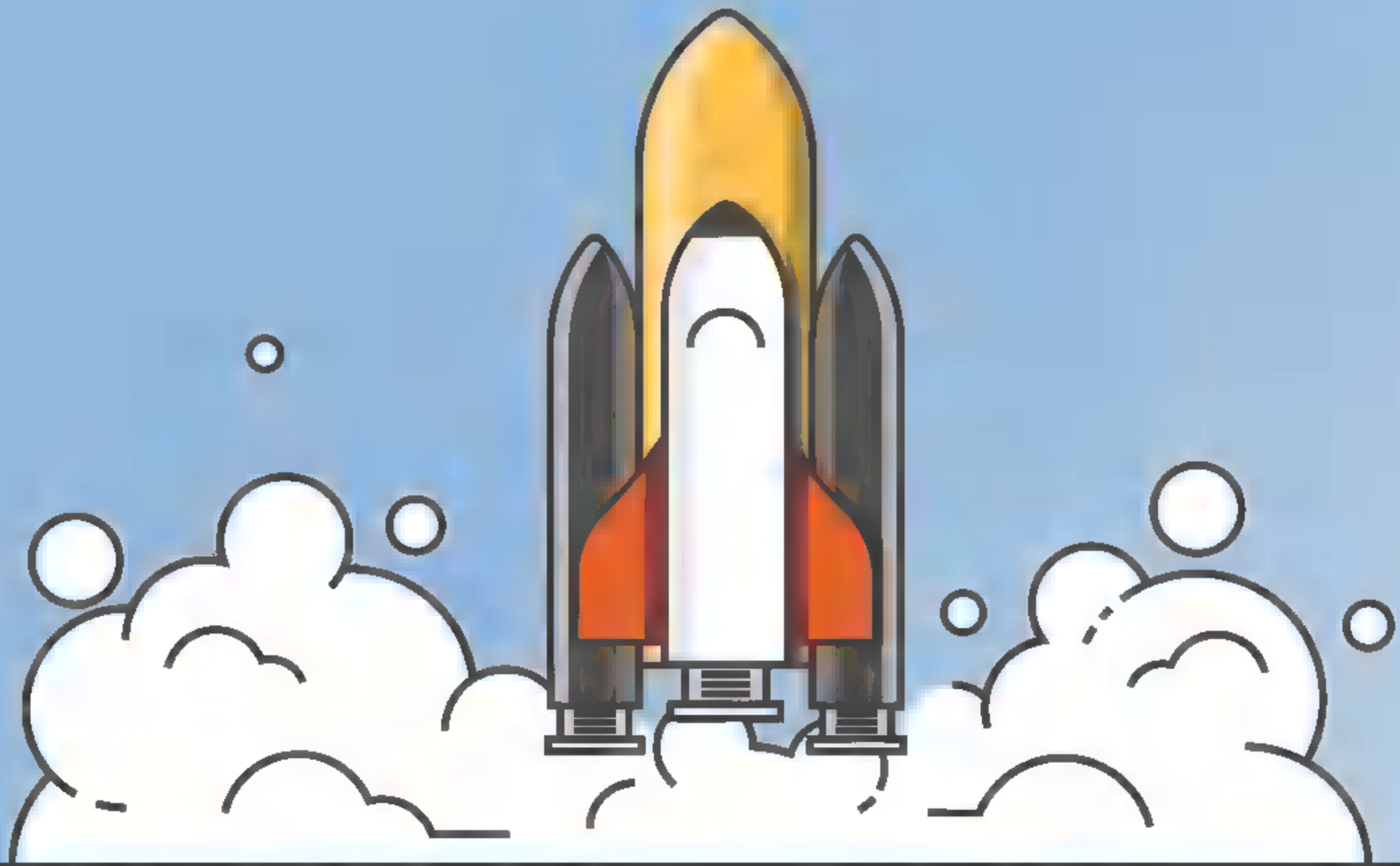


**Sorry, we're doing some work on the site**

Thank you for being patient. We are doing some work on the site and will be back shortly.



Thank you for being patient. We are doing some work on the site and will be back shortly.



## **Sorry, we're doing some work on the site**

Thank you for being patient. We are doing some work on the site and will be back shortly.



**Sorry, we're doing some work on the site**

Thank you for being patient. We are doing some work on the site and will be back shortly.



This site is marked private by its owner. If you would like to view it, you'll need two things:

1. A WordPress.com account. Don't have an account? All you need is an email address and password — [register here!](#)
2. Permission from the site owner. Once you've created an account, log in and revisit this screen to request an invite.

If you already have both of these, great!

[Log in here](#)

[Back to WordPress.com](#)





This site is marked private by its owner. If you would like to view it, you'll need two things:

1. A WordPress.com account. Don't have an account? All you need is an email address and password — [register here!](#)
2. Permission from the site owner. Once you've created an account, log in and revisit this screen to request an invite.

If you already have both of these, great!

[Log in here](#)

[Back to WordPress.com](#)



This site is marked private by its owner. If you would like to view it, you'll need two things:

1. A WordPress.com account. Don't have an account? All you need is an email address and password — [register here!](#)
2. Permission from the site owner. Once you've created an account, log in and revisit this screen to request an invite.

If you already have both of these, great!

[Log in here](#)

[Back to WordPress.com](#)



This site is marked private by its owner. If you would like to view it, you'll need two things:

1. A WordPress.com account. Don't have an account? All you need is an email address and password — [register here!](#)
2. Permission from the site owner. Once you've created an account, log in and revisit this screen to request an invite.

If you already have both of these, great!

[Log in here](#)

[Back to WordPress.com](#)



This site is marked private by its owner. If you would like to view it, you'll need two things:

1. A WordPress.com account. Don't have an account? All you need is an email address and password — [register here!](#)
2. Permission from the site owner. Once you've created an account, log in and revisit this screen to request an invite.

If you already have both of these, great!

[Log in here](#)

[Back to WordPress.com](#)



This site is marked private by its owner. If you would like to view it, you'll need two things:

1. A WordPress.com account. Don't have an account? All you need is an email address and password — [register here!](#)
2. Permission from the site owner. Once you've created an account, log in and revisit this screen to request an invite.

If you already have both of these, great!

[Log in here](#)

[Back to WordPress.com](#)





This site is marked private by its owner. If you would like to view it, you'll need two things:

1. A WordPress.com account. Don't have an account? All you need is an email address and password — [register here!](#)
2. Permission from the site owner. Once you've created an account, log in and revisit this screen to request an invite.

If you already have both of these, great!

[Log in here](#)

[Back to WordPress.com](#)



This site is marked private by its owner. If you would like to view it, you'll need two things:

1. A WordPress.com account. Don't have an account? All you need is an email address and password — [register here!](#)
2. Permission from the site owner. Once you've created an account, log in and revisit this screen to request an invite.

If you already have both of these, great!

[Log in here](#)

[Back to WordPress.com](#)



This site is marked private by its owner. If you would like to view it, you'll need two things:

1. A WordPress.com account. Don't have an account? All you need is an email address and password — [register here!](#)
2. Permission from the site owner. Once you've created an account, log in and revisit this screen to request an invite.

If you already have both of these, great!

[Log in here](#)

[Back to WordPress.com](#)



This site is marked private by its owner. If you would like to view it, you'll need two things:

1. A WordPress.com account. Don't have an account? All you need is an email address and password — [register here!](#)
2. Permission from the site owner. Once you've created an account, log in and revisit this screen to request an invite.

If you already have both of these, great!

[Log in here](#)

[Back to WordPress.com](#)



This site is marked private by its owner. If you would like to view it, you'll need two things:

1. A WordPress.com account. Don't have an account? All you need is an email address and password — [register here!](#)
2. Permission from the site owner. Once you've created an account, log in and revisit this screen to request an invite.

If you already have both of these, great!

[Log in here](#)

[Back to WordPress.com](#)





This site is marked private by its owner. If you would like to view it, you'll need two things:

1. A WordPress.com account. Don't have an account? All you need is an email address and password — [register here!](#)
2. Permission from the site owner. Once you've created an account, log in and revisit this screen to request an invite.

If you already have both of these, great!

[Log in here](#)

[Back to WordPress.com](#)



This site is marked private by its owner. If you would like to view it, you'll need two things:

1. A WordPress.com account. Don't have an account? All you need is an email address and password — [register here!](#)
2. Permission from the site owner. Once you've created an account, log in and revisit this screen to request an invite.

If you already have both of these, great!

[Log in here](#)

[Back to WordPress.com](#)



This site is marked private by its owner. If you would like to view it, you'll need two things:

1. A WordPress.com account. Don't have an account? All you need is an email address and password — [register here!](#)
2. Permission from the site owner. Once you've created an account, log in and revisit this screen to request an invite.

If you already have both of these, great!

[Log in here](#)

[Back to WordPress.com](#)



This site is marked private by its owner. If you would like to view it, you'll need two things:

1. A WordPress.com account. Don't have an account? All you need is an email address and password — [register here!](#)
2. Permission from the site owner. Once you've created an account, log in and revisit this screen to request an invite.

If you already have both of these, great!

[Log in here](#)

[Back to WordPress.com](#)



This site is marked private by its owner. If you would like to view it, you'll need two things:

1. A WordPress.com account. Don't have an account? All you need is an email address and password — [register here!](#)
2. Permission from the site owner. Once you've created an account, log in and revisit this screen to request an invite.

If you already have both of these, great!

[Log in here](#)

[Back to WordPress.com](#)





This site is marked private by its owner. If you would like to view it, you'll need two things:

1. A WordPress.com account. Don't have an account? All you need is an email address and password — [register here!](#)
2. Permission from the site owner. Once you've created an account, log in and revisit this screen to request an invite.

If you already have both of these, great!

[Log in here](#)

[Back to WordPress.com](#)



This site is marked private by its owner. If you would like to view it, you'll need two things:

1. A WordPress.com account. Don't have an account? All you need is an email address and password — [register here!](#)
2. Permission from the site owner. Once you've created an account, log in and revisit this screen to request an invite.

If you already have both of these, great!

[Log in here](#)

[Back to WordPress.com](#)



This site is marked private by its owner. If you would like to view it, you'll need two things:

1. A WordPress.com account. Don't have an account? All you need is an email address and password — [register here!](#)
2. Permission from the site owner. Once you've created an account, log in and revisit this screen to request an invite.

If you already have both of these, great!

[Log in here](#)

[Back to WordPress.com](#)



This site is marked private by its owner. If you would like to view it, you'll need two things:

1. A WordPress.com account. Don't have an account? All you need is an email address and password — [register here!](#)
2. Permission from the site owner. Once you've created an account, log in and revisit this screen to request an invite.

If you already have both of these, great!

[Log in here](#)

[Back to WordPress.com](#)



This site is marked private by its owner. If you would like to view it, you'll need two things:

1. A WordPress.com account. Don't have an account? All you need is an email address and password — [register here!](#)
2. Permission from the site owner. Once you've created an account, log in and revisit this screen to request an invite.

If you already have both of these, great!

[Log in here](#)

[Back to WordPress.com](#)





This site is marked private by its owner. If you would like to view it, you'll need two things:

1. A WordPress.com account. Don't have an account? All you need is an email address and password — [register here!](#)
2. Permission from the site owner. Once you've created an account, log in and revisit this screen to request an invite.

If you already have both of these, great!

[Log in here](#)

[Back to WordPress.com](#)



This site is marked private by its owner. If you would like to view it, you'll need two things:

1. A WordPress.com account. Don't have an account? All you need is an email address and password — [register here!](#)
2. Permission from the site owner. Once you've created an account, log in and revisit this screen to request an invite.

If you already have both of these, great!

[Log in here](#)

[Back to WordPress.com](#)



This site is marked private by its owner. If you would like to view it, you'll need two things:

1. A WordPress.com account. Don't have an account? All you need is an email address and password — [register here!](#)
2. Permission from the site owner. Once you've created an account, log in and revisit this screen to request an invite.

If you already have both of these, great!

[Log in here](#)

[Back to WordPress.com](#)



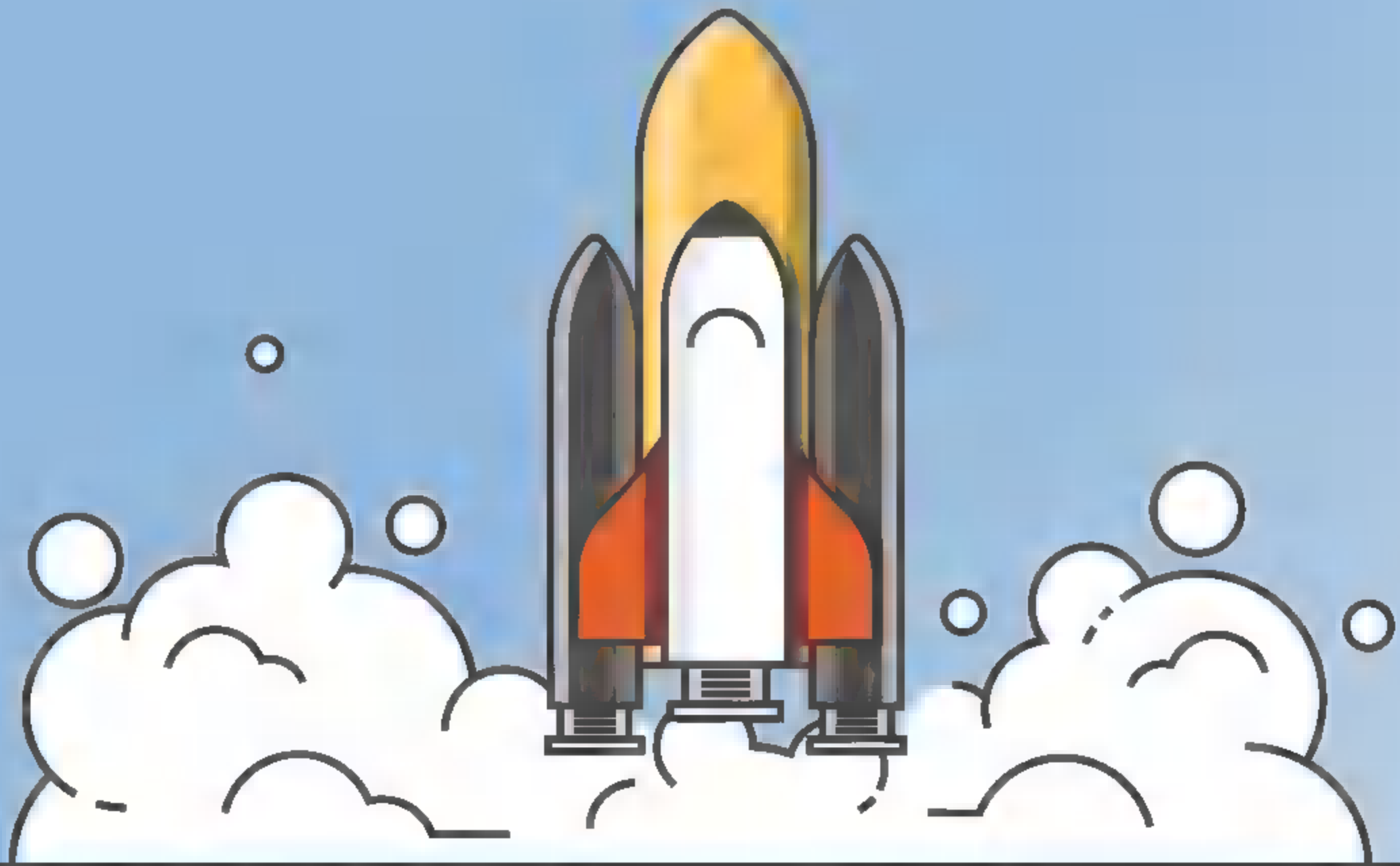
This site is marked private by its owner. If you would like to view it, you'll need two things:

1. A WordPress.com account. Don't have an account? All you need is an email address and password — [register here!](#)
2. Permission from the site owner. Once you've created an account, log in and revisit this screen to request an invite.

If you already have both of these, great!

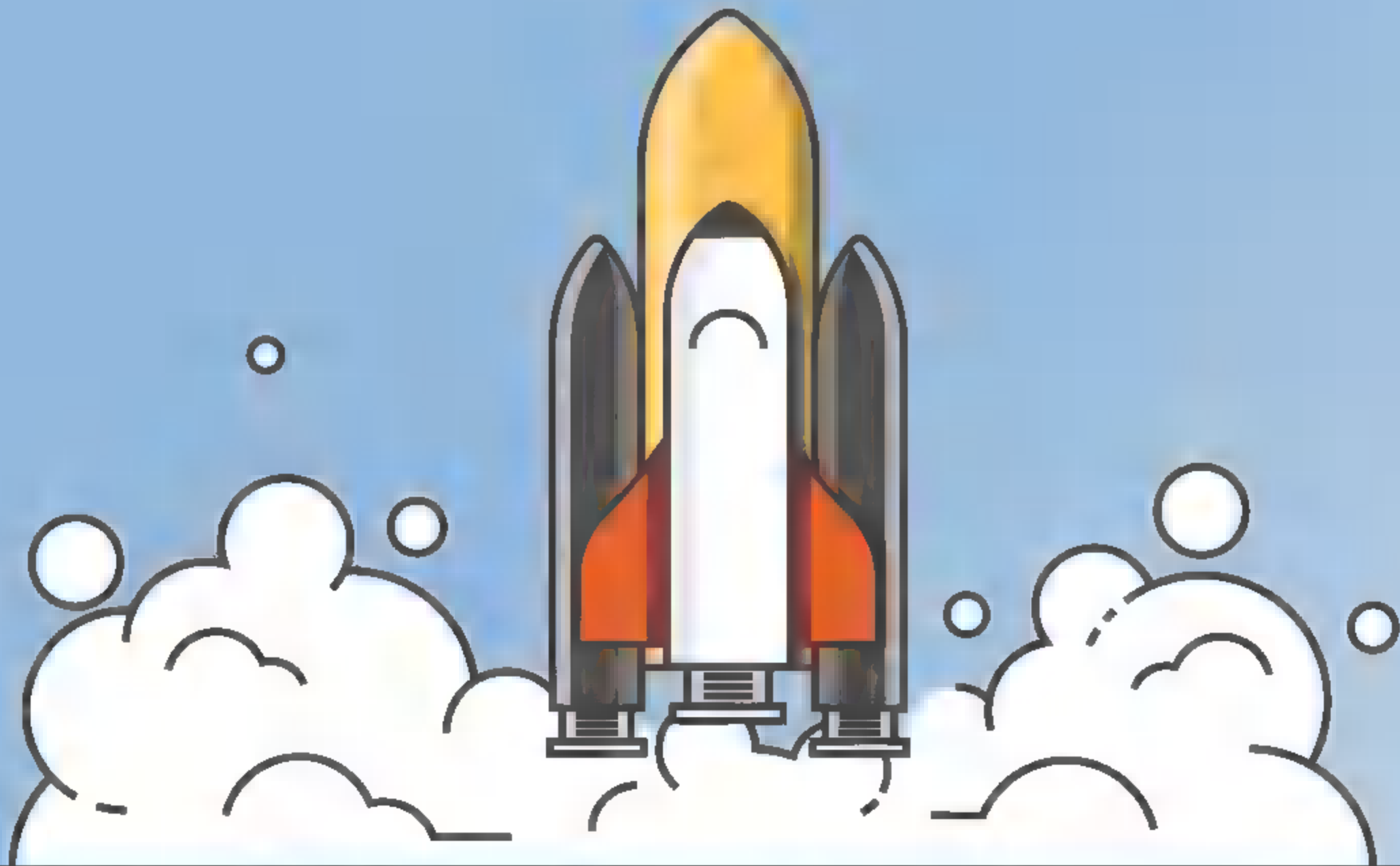
[Log in here](#)

[Back to WordPress.com](#)



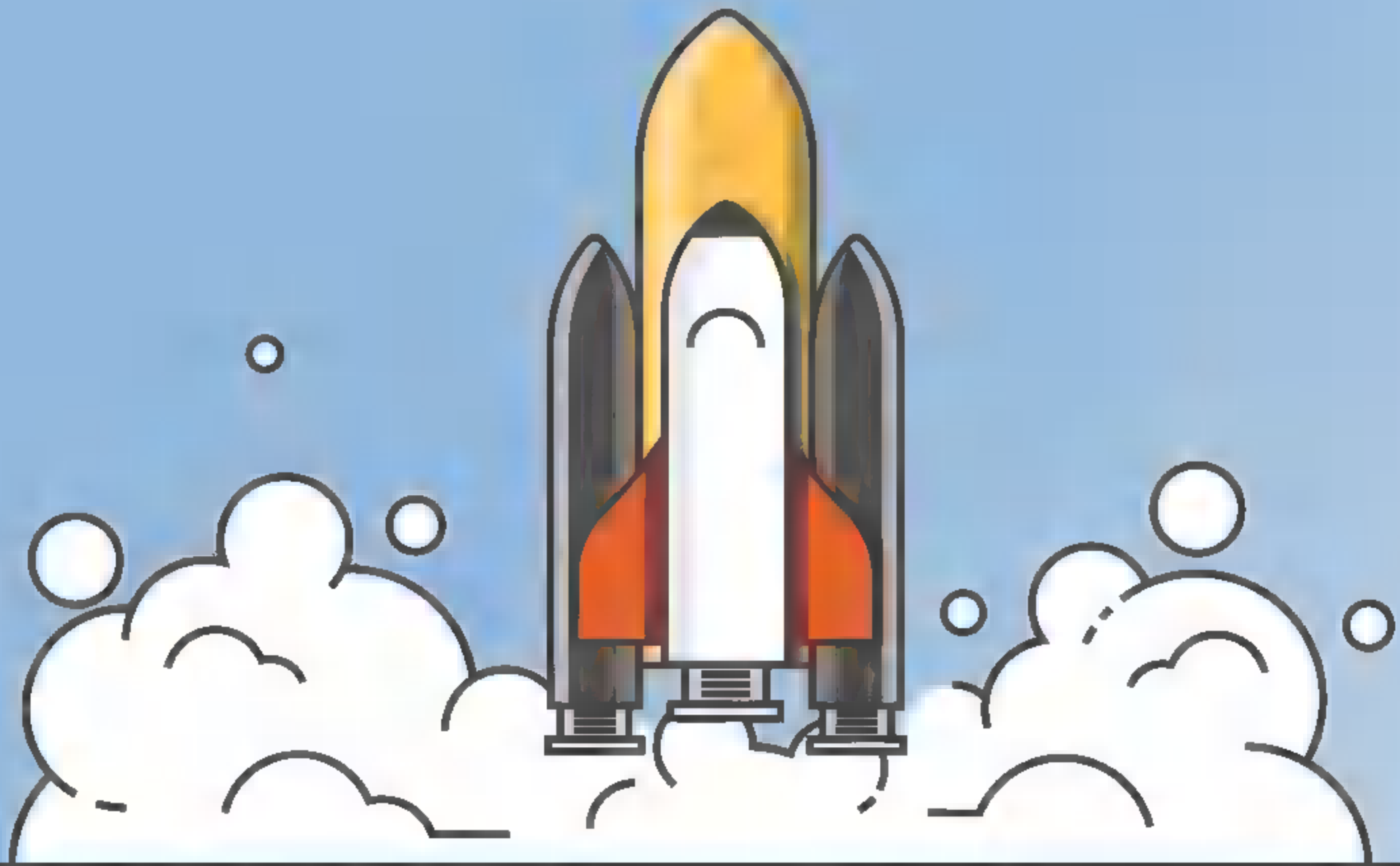
Thank you for being patient. We are doing some work on the site and will be back shortly.



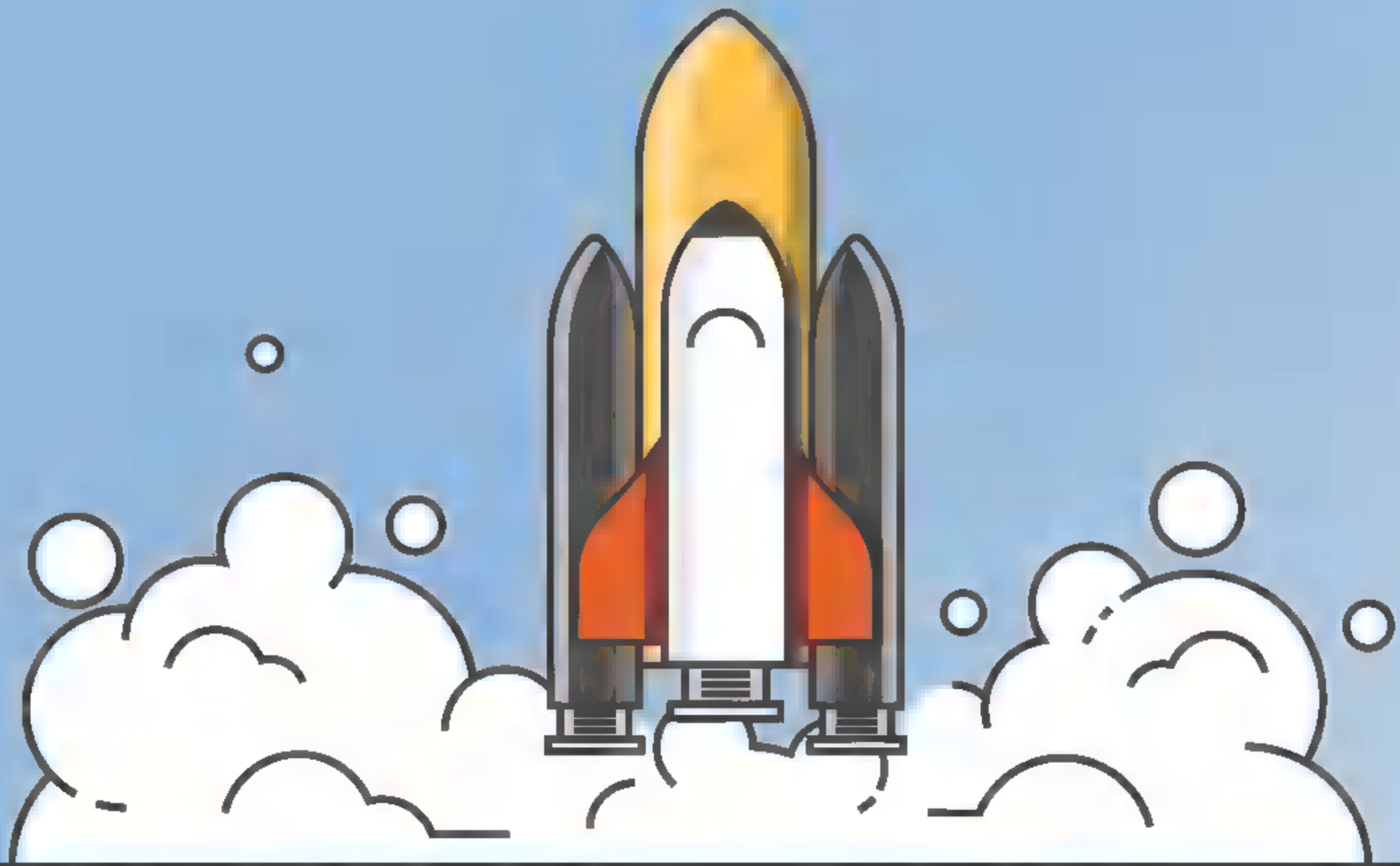


## **Sorry, we're doing some work on the site**

Thank you for being patient. We are doing some work on the site and will be back shortly.

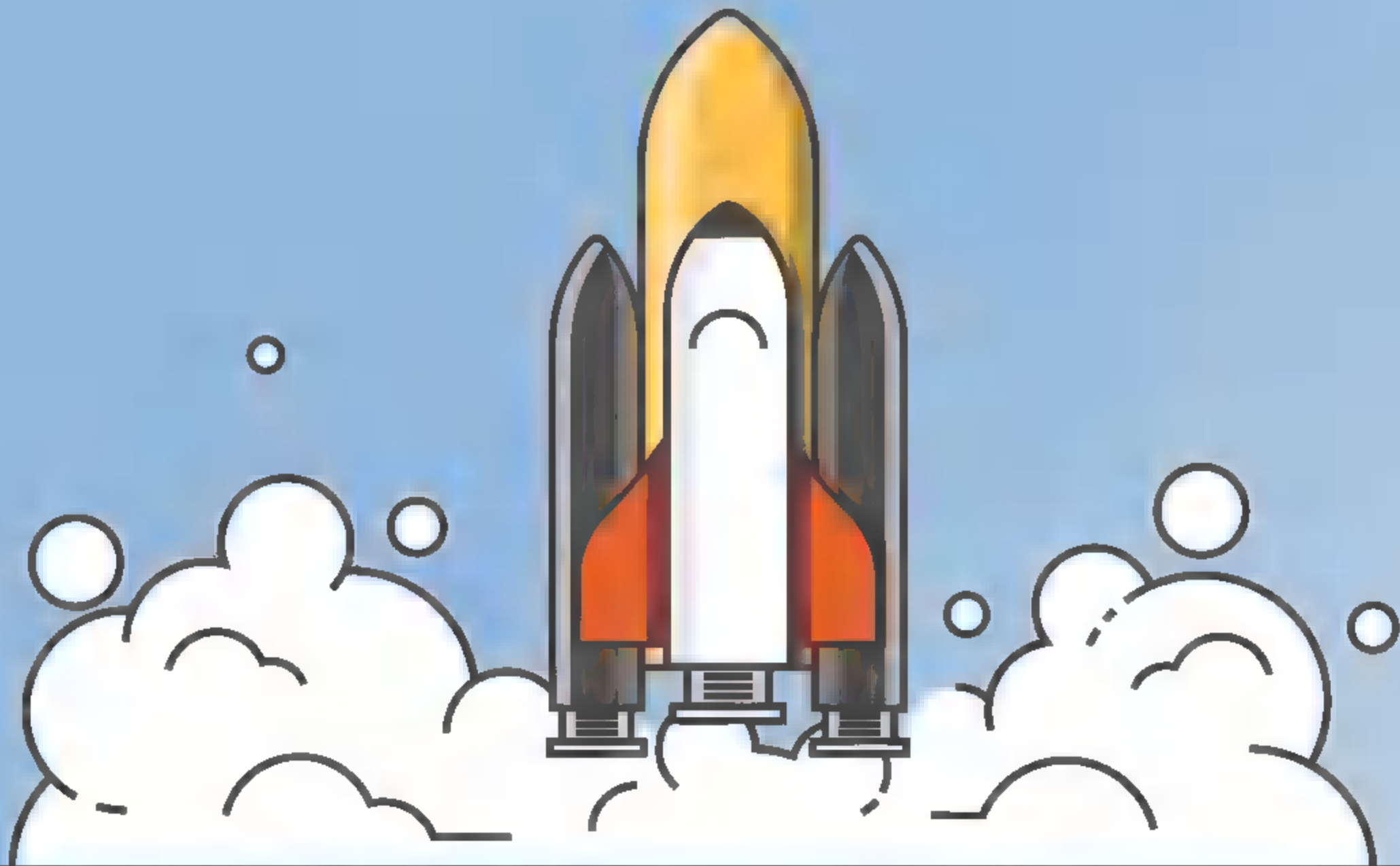


Thank you for being patient. We are doing some work on the site and will be back shortly.



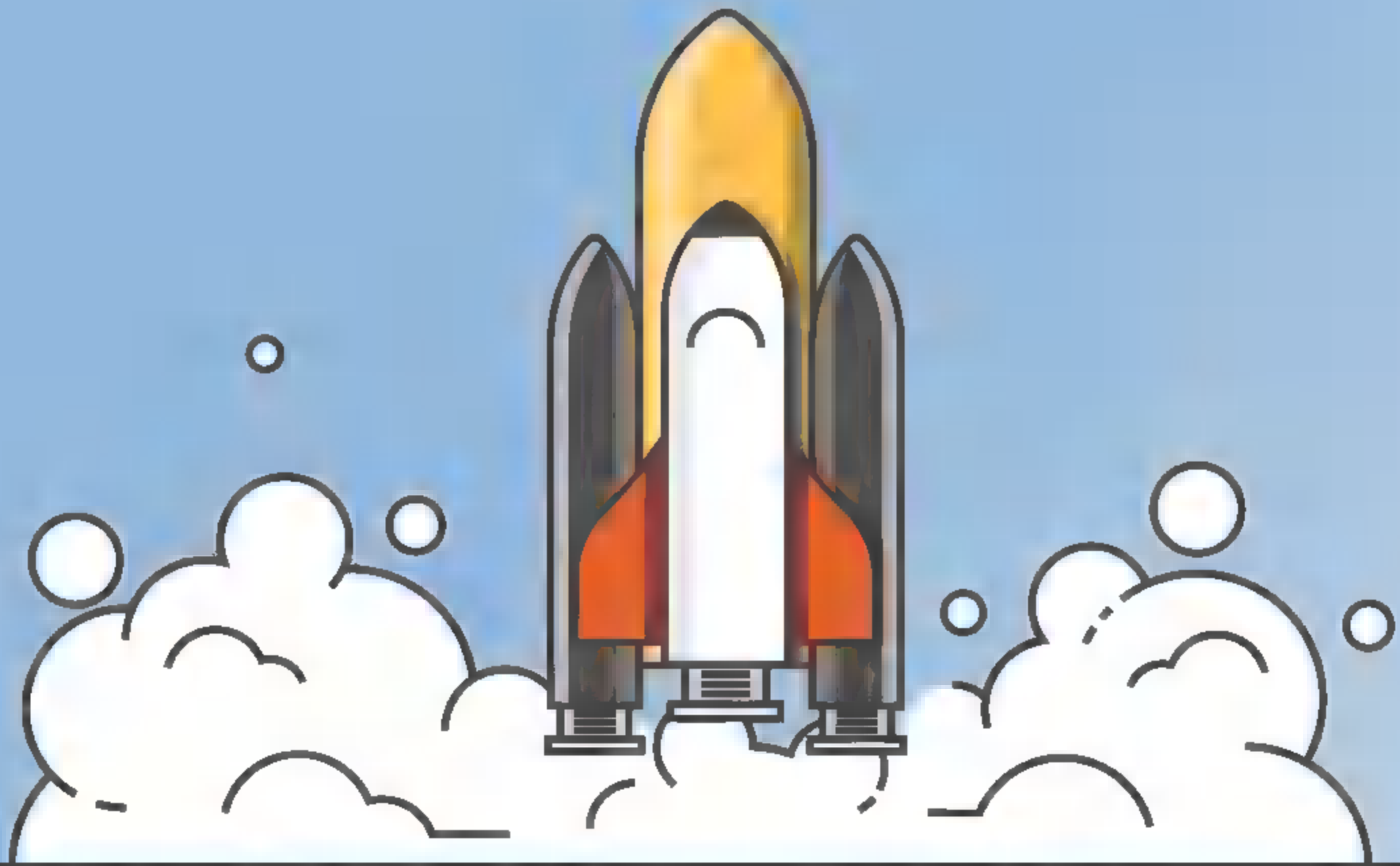
## **Sorry, we're doing some work on the site**

Thank you for being patient. We are doing some work on the site and will be back shortly.



## **Sorry, we're doing some work on the site**

Thank you for being patient. We are doing some work on the site and will be back shortly.



## **Sorry, we're doing some work on the site**

Thank you for being patient. We are doing some work on the site and will be back shortly.



```
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html lang="en">
  <head><script src="//archive.org/includes/analytics.js?v=cf34f82" type="text/javascript"></script>
<script type="text/javascript">window.addEventListener('DOMContentLoaded',function(){var v=archive_analytics.values;v.service='wb';v.server_name='wwwb-
app207.us.archive.org';v.server_ms=208;archive_analytics.send_pageview({});});</script><script type="text/javascript" src="/_static/js/playback.bundle.js?v=bQqvHU8mx" charset="utf-8"></script>
<script type="text/javascript" src="/_static/js/wombat.js?v=cRqOKC0w" charset="utf-8"></script>
<script type="text/javascript">
  __wm.init("http://web.archive.org/web");
  __wm.wombat({"https://kellytshibaka.com/2016/03/22/gifts-from-thoughtful-givers/feed/", "20201130141324", "http://web.archive.org/", "web", "/_static/",
    "1606745604"});
</script>
<link rel="stylesheet" type="text/css" href="/_static/css/banner-styles.css?v=wi0P2tld" />
<link rel="stylesheet" type="text/css" href="/_static/css/iconochive.css?v=qtvMKcIj" />
<!-- End Wayback Rewrite JS Include -->

  <meta charset="utf-8">
  <meta http-equiv="X-UA-Compatible" content="IE=edge">
  <meta name="viewport" content="width=device-width, initial-scale=1">
  <title> is under construction</title>
  <meta name="description" content="" />
  <meta name="generator" content="Free UnderConstructionPage plugin for WordPress">
  <link rel="stylesheet" href="http://web.archive.org/web/20201130141324cs_/https://fonts.googleapis.com/css?family=Nunito:200,600,900">
  <link rel="stylesheet" href="http://web.archive.org/web/20201130141324cs_/https://kellytshibaka.com/wp-content/plugins/under-construction-
page/themes/css/bootstrap.min.css?v=3.83" type="text/css">
<link rel="stylesheet" href="http://web.archive.org/web/20201130141324cs_/https://kellytshibaka.com/wp-content/plugins/under-construction-
page/themes/css/common.css?v=3.83" type="text/css">
<link rel="stylesheet" href="http://web.archive.org/web/20201130141324cs_/https://kellytshibaka.com/wp-content/plugins/under-construction-
page/themes/rocket/style.css?v=3.83" type="text/css">
<link rel="stylesheet" href="http://web.archive.org/web/20201130141324cs_/https://kellytshibaka.com/wp-content/plugins/under-construction-page/themes/css/font-
awesome.min.css?v=3.83" type="text/css">
<link rel="icon" sizes="128x128" href="http://web.archive.org/web/20201130141324im_/https://kellytshibaka.com/wp-content/plugins/under-construction-
page/themes/images/favicon.png"/>
</head>

  <body>
    <div id="hero-image">
      
    </div>
    <div class="container">

      <div class="row">
        <div class="col-xs-12 col-md-12 col-lg-12">
          <h1>Sorry, we're doing some work on the site</h1>
        </div>
      </div>

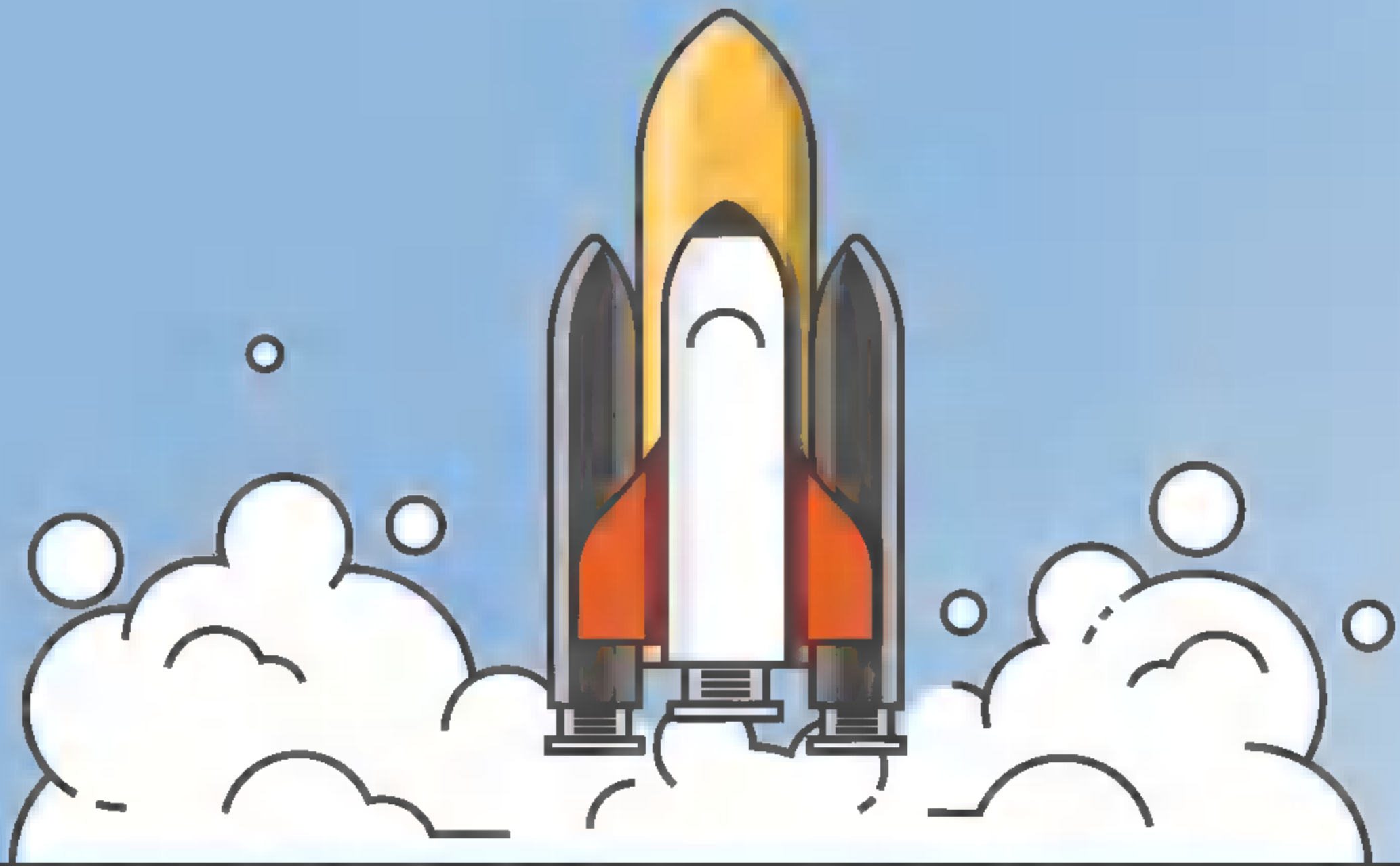
      <div class="row">
        <div class="col-xs-12 col-md-8 col-md-offset-2 col-lg-offset-2 col-lg-8">
          <p class="content">Thank you for being patient. We are doing some work on the site and will be back shortly.</p>
        </div>
      </div>

      <div class="row" id="social">
        <div class="col-xs-12 col-md-12 col-lg-12">

        </div>
      </div>

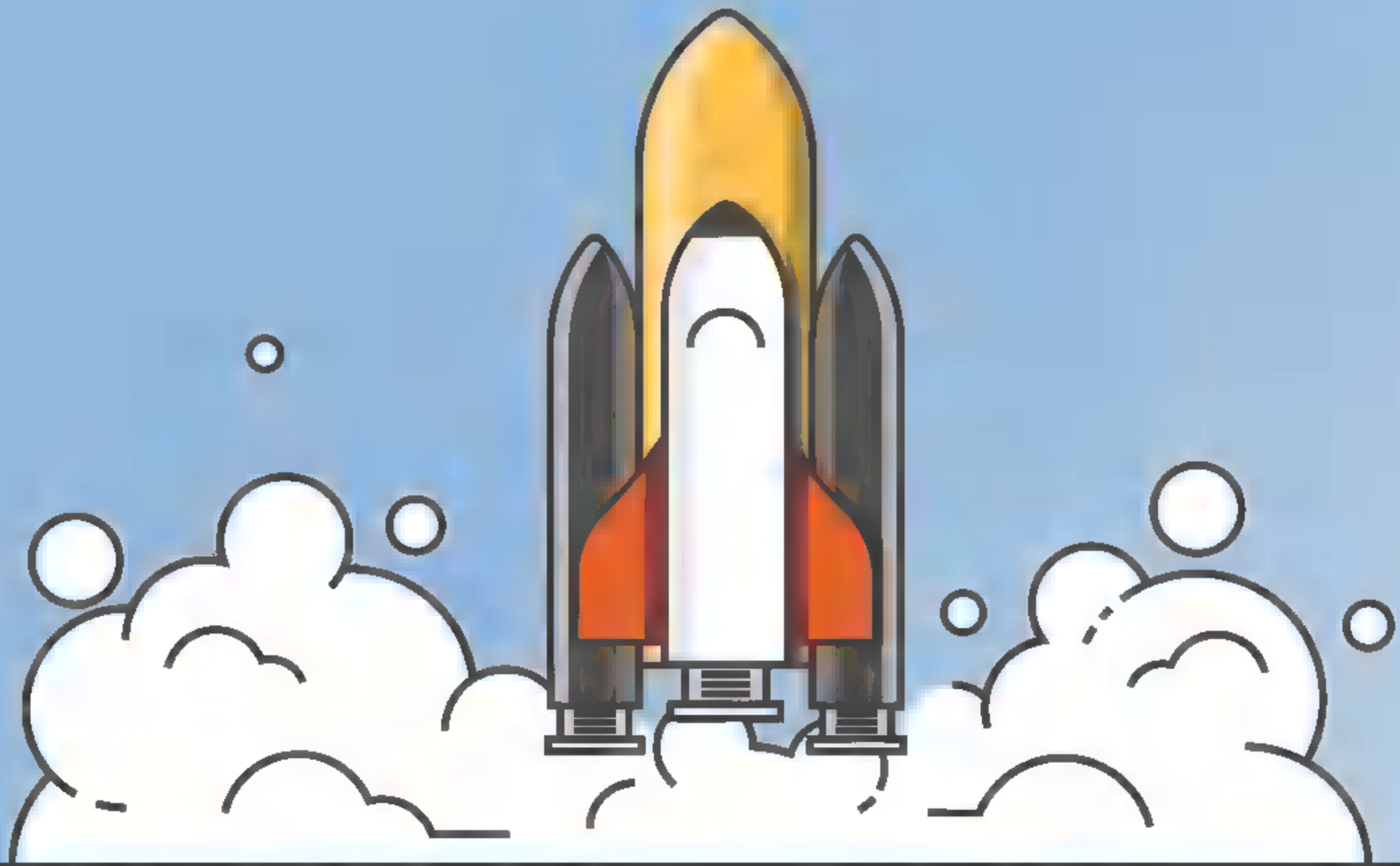
      <div id="login-button" class="loggedout"><a title="Log in to WordPress admin" href="http://web.archive.org/web/20201130141324/https://kellytshibaka.com/wp-
login.php"><i class="fa fa-wordpress fa-2x" aria-hidden="true"></i></a></div>
    </body>
  </html>
<!--
  FILE ARCHIVED ON 14:13:24 Nov 30, 2020 AND RETRIEVED FROM THE
  INTERNET ARCHIVE ON 22:01:40 Apr 13, 2021.
  JAVASCRIPT APPENDED BY WAYBACK MACHINE, COPYRIGHT INTERNET ARCHIVE.

  ALL OTHER CONTENT MAY ALSO BE PROTECTED BY COPYRIGHT {17 U.S.C.
  SECTION 108(a){3}}.
-->
<!--
playback timings (ms):
  captures_list: 88.506
  exclusion.robots: 0.254
  exclusion.robots.policy: 0.242
  RedisCDXSource: 1.086
  esindex: 0.011
  LoadShardBlock: 62.826 {3}
  Petaboxloader3.datanode: 87.75 {4}
  CDXLines.iter: 20.766 {3}
  load_resource: 114.393
  PetaboxLoader3.resolve: 84.43
-->
```



## **Sorry, we're doing some work on the site**

Thank you for being patient. We are doing some work on the site and will be back shortly.



## **Sorry, we're doing some work on the site**

Thank you for being patient. We are doing some work on the site and will be back shortly.



## **Sorry, we're doing some work on the site**

Thank you for being patient. We are doing some work on the site and will be back shortly.



```
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html lang="en">
  <head><script src="//archive.org/includes/analytics.js?v=cf34f82" type="text/javascript"></script>
<script type="text/javascript">window.addEventListener('DOMContentLoaded',function(){var v=archive_analytics.values;v.service='wb';v.server_name='wwwb-
app203.us.archive.org';v.server_ms=384;archive_analytics.send_pageview({});});</script><script type="text/javascript" src="/_static/js/playback.bundle.js?
v=bQqvHU8mx" charset="utf-8"></script>
<script type="text/javascript" src="/_static/js/wombat.js?v=cRqQKc0w" charset="utf-8"></script>
<script type="text/javascript">
  __wm.init("http://web.archive.org/web");
  __wm.wombat({"https://kellytshibaka.com/2016/03/25/i-love-sonic/feed/", "20201201004114", "http://web.archive.org/", "web", "/_static/",
    "1606783274"});
</script>
<link rel="stylesheet" type="text/css" href="/_static/css/banner-styles.css?v=wi0P2tld" />
<link rel="stylesheet" type="text/css" href="/_static/css/iconochive.css?v=qtvMKcIJ" />
<!-- End Wayback Rewrite JS Include -->

  <meta charset="utf-8">
  <meta http-equiv="X-UA-Compatible" content="IE=edge">
  <meta name="viewport" content="width=device-width, initial-scale=1">
  <title> is under construction</title>
  <meta name="description" content=""/>
  <meta name="generator" content="Free UnderConstructionPage plugin for WordPress">
  <link rel="stylesheet" href="http://web.archive.org/web/20201201004114cs_/https://fonts.googleapis.com/css?family=Nunito:200,600,900">
  <link rel="stylesheet" href="http://web.archive.org/web/20201201004114cs_/https://kellytshibaka.com/wp-content/plugins/under-construction-
page/themes/css/bootstrap.min.css?v=3.83" type="text/css">
<link rel="stylesheet" href="http://web.archive.org/web/20201201004114cs_/https://kellytshibaka.com/wp-content/plugins/under-construction-
page/themes/css/common.css?v=3.83" type="text/css">
<link rel="stylesheet" href="http://web.archive.org/web/20201201004114cs_/https://kellytshibaka.com/wp-content/plugins/under-construction-
page/themes/rocket/style.css?v=3.83" type="text/css">
<link rel="stylesheet" href="http://web.archive.org/web/20201201004114cs_/https://kellytshibaka.com/wp-content/plugins/under-construction-page/themes/css/font-
awesome.min.css?v=3.83" type="text/css">
<link rel="icon" sizes="128x128" href="http://web.archive.org/web/20201201004114im_/https://kellytshibaka.com/wp-content/plugins/under-construction-
page/themes/images/favicon.png"/>
</head>

  <body>
    <div id="hero-image">
      
    </div>
    <div class="container">

      <div class="row">
        <div class="col-xs-12 col-md-12 col-lg-12">
          <h1>Sorry, we're doing some work on the site</h1>
        </div>
      </div>

      <div class="row">
        <div class="col-xs-12 col-md-8 col-md-offset-2 col-lg-offset-2 col-lg-8">
          <p class="content">Thank you for being patient. We are doing some work on the site and will be back shortly.</p>
        </div>
      </div>

      <div class="row" id="social">
        <div class="col-xs-12 col-md-12 col-lg-12">

        </div>
      </div>

      <div id="login-button" class="loggedout"><a title="Log in to WordPress admin" href="http://web.archive.org/web/20201201004114/https://kellytshibaka.com/wp-
login.php"><i class="fa fa-wordpress fa-2x" aria-hidden="true"></i></a></div>
    </body>
  </html>
<!--
  FILE ARCHIVED ON 00:41:14 Dec 01, 2020 AND RETRIEVED FROM THE
  INTERNET ARCHIVE ON 22:03:23 Apr 13, 2021.
  JAVASCRIPT APPENDED BY WAYBACK MACHINE, COPYRIGHT INTERNET ARCHIVE.

  ALL OTHER CONTENT MAY ALSO BE PROTECTED BY COPYRIGHT {17 U.S.C.
  SECTION 108(a)(3)}.
-->
<!--
playback timings (ms):
  captures_list: 163.312
  exclusion.robots: 0.231
  exclusion.robots.policy: 0.222
  RedisCDXSource: 3.992
  esindex: 0.01
  loadShardBlock: 132.112 {3}
  PetaboxLoader3.datanode: 110.251 {4}
  CDXLines.iter: 22.652 {3}
  load_resource: 215.602
  PetaboxLoader3.resolve: 176.663
-->
```



## **Sorry, we're doing some work on the site**

Thank you for being patient. We are doing some work on the site and will be back shortly.







**Sorry, we're doing some work on the site**

Thank you for being patient. We are doing some work on the site and will be back shortly.